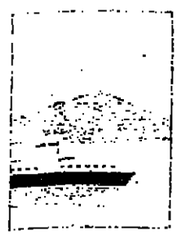
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GO PLACES

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CLINTON TRIUMPH

Comeback Kid wins vote on Nafta

Trade hope, page 16; business, page 26



THE GREAT DIVIDE

Are you Harrogate or Hong Kong?

Peter Millar, page 19

30P

THE TIMES

No. 64,805 FRIDAY NOVEMBER 19 1993

Unionists told: you have no veto

Major gives Ulster peace top priority

By Philip Webster
Political Editor

JOHN Major yesterday made his Ulster peace initiative the leading priority in the new government programme outlined in the Queen's speech.

He again gave Northern Ireland precedence over his "back-to-basics" blueprint as he delivered a warning to hardline unionists that they could not veto attempts to reach a political settlement.

He used his speech to the Commons to make plain for the first time that he was ready to table comprehensive proposals without waiting for all the Ulster parties to agree to return to the conference table.

Previously, Mr Major had insisted that he would not unveil government plans, believed to involve the creation of an Ulster assembly but covering all three "strands" of the peace effort that stalled a year ago, until the parties agreed to return to talks.

By dropping that condition, he was sending the clearest possible message to Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionists that they could not block progress by their refusal to participate.

At the same time he gave "a cast-iron guarantee" to the unionists that he would not compromise on the key principle that there could be no change in Northern Ireland's status without the freely expressed consent of its people.

MAIN POINTS OF QUEEN'S SPEECH

- ☐ A 27-point clampdown on crime
- ☐ Reducing red tape for small businesses
- ☐ Reorganisation of police service
- ☐ MI6 to be put on statutory footing
- ☐ British Coal privatisation
- ☐ Changes to EC revenue raising
- ☐ Sunday trading reforms
- ☐ National Insurance contributions increases

Mr Major's remarks were welcomed in Dublin last night, where a government spokesman said: "He is on for making progress and so are we. Both governments are moving on the same lines."

Mr Major was speaking after the government had set out its programme of 13 bills for the next year, which will be dominated by substantial measures on criminal justice, reducing the burden of red tape and regulations in industry, and improving the standards of teacher training. There will also be bills to liberalise restrictions on Sunday trading, privatise the coal industry and to make the Secret Intelligence Service accountable to parliament. He called it a "realistic programme ... which addresses practical problems in a practical way".

They were policies that "provide the foundations for a successful, tolerant, responsible society". Emphasising the back-to-basics strategy underpinning the programme, he said the one battle that had not been won in the Eighties was the one against "fashionable opinion and theories" in the social sphere.

The criminal justice bill will be the centrepiece. "Crime is not just a problem for the well-to-do. It often hits the hardest those people who have least. I share the view of most people in this country that the balance has been tilted for too long in favour of the criminal and away from the victim."

The agenda came under attack from the opposition parties. John Smith, the Labour leader, branded the approach as "an appalling admission of failure".

Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democratic leader, said the government seemed to spend "more time and energy seeking scapegoats for what has gone wrong than proposing solutions about how to put right the mess that they have created".

Conservative MPs were struck, however, by Mr Major's decision to use his speech to keep the momentum of his delicate peace offensive moving. By stating that Northern Ireland was "at the head of our priorities", he confirmed that he was staking his personal authority on the initiative.

Officials admitted that the passages on Ulster had been written shortly before delivery and that there was a constant need to respond to the other parties involved. Mr Major said he was not looking "for peace at any price". But while there was a mood for peace there was also a feeling that the dead must be endlessly avenged, that any accommodation with the opposing viewpoint would betray those who had died.

"The right memorial to the dead is surely to make sure that no one else is killed. Unfortunately avenging the dead means more dead." He did not wish to raise false hopes "but there may be an opportunity for progress and we must explore it. If we do not succeed this time we must keep trying."

He added: "Our chances improve if we have the support of both sides of the community, of all constitutional parties, and of the Irish government. But no party or organisation can exercise a veto on progress."

Mr Major referred to his pledge that Sinn Fein could enter the political arena if the IRA's violence ended for good, and was demonstrated over a sufficient interval. "If they send such a message we are ready to listen to them. But a statement of intent by them is not by itself enough. The violence must stop and be seen to stop.

He said: "We are ready to respond to a cessation of violence. It is now for Sinn Fein and the IRA, and equally for the Loyalist paramilitary organisations, to draw the right conclusions."

Queen's speech, pages 10, 11
Peter Riddell, page 20
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Anna Mansell, 14



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Claire Fitzgerald, 13



Richard Pagett, 12

Safety calls follow school bus deaths

By Edward Gorman and Tim Jones

AN ELEVENTH child victim of the M40 school minibus crash died last night as pressure mounted on the government for the introduction of legislation to improve safety.

Ten children and their teacher died instantly early yesterday when their minibus ploughed into the back of a lorry, sparking an inferno from which only four pupils escaped. The other fatality was Charlene O'Dowd, 12, who died after being transferred to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham, for specialist treatment. A spokeswoman for South Warwickshire Hospital said Katie Murray, one of the casualties, remained in a critical condition, but Holly Caldwell and Bethan O'Doherty were stable.

Safety campaigners said it was "scandalous" that drivers of school minibuses were not subject to the same stringent checks as professional operators. Frank Dobson, the Labour transport spokesman, said the law on the use and safety of minibuses was clearly inadequate. "The government must tighten up their whole legal status and regulation."

As pupils and staff at Hagley High School in the West Midlands struggled to come to terms with tragedy, the Queen was among the first to send her condolences. She said she was shocked at the deaths, and told the school: "Please give my deep sympathy to the bereaved families and my best wishes for the speedy recovery of those who were injured."

Paul Hill, the head teacher, said at an emotional press conference that the school had lost ten of the nicest children anyone could wish to meet. He called them the "brightest and the best". He added: "We have also lost a very dedicated teacher and my heart and prayers, together with all those of the staff and children, go out to the families of these children."

The accident happened in relatively clear conditions just after 12.30 as the minibus, driven by Eleanor Fry, 35, a maths and music teacher, was passing junction 15 on the M40, west of Warwick. She was returning to the school with 14 pupils after attending a schools prom at the Royal Albert Hall in London. The children's parents were waiting for them at the school car park. A second bus also from the school was travelling about five minutes behind Miss Fry, but did not stop when it passed the scene.

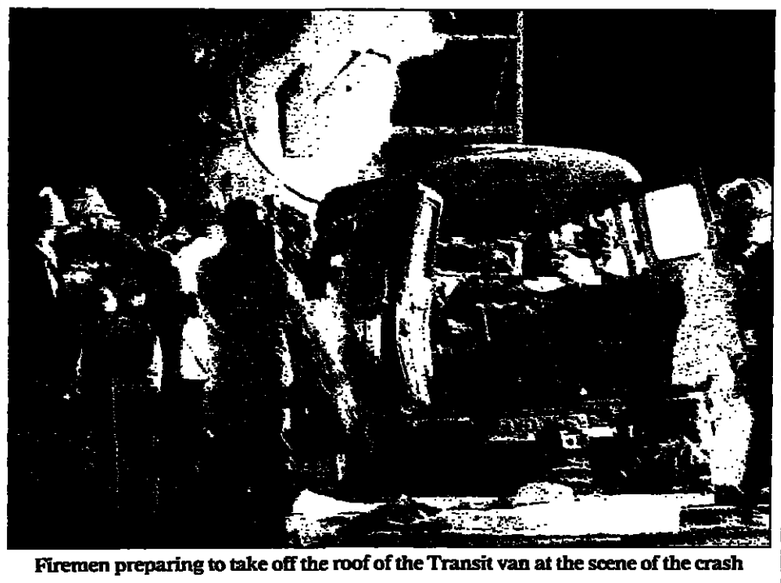
A motorist driving behind the bus in the centre lane of the motorway said it suddenly veered to the left and hit a stationary maintenance lorry on the hard shoulder. It had been engaged in white-lining work and its driver had parked to telephone police to tell them he had completed the job. Warwickshire County Council denied that a "keep left" arrow on the rear of the 12.5-tonne maintenance lorry may have distracted Miss Fry, increasing speculation that she may have fallen asleep at the wheel or suffered a tyre-burst.

Patrick Molloy, from Liverpool, said there was no obvious explanation for the crash. "I had been driving behind the minibus. It was in the middle lane and then veered into the council truck. At first, the fire was very small and then suddenly it flared up under the bonnet and spread so quickly."

Mr Molloy said he and others tried to get the children out but were forced back by the flames. "We managed to get about seven people out, but this other man said: 'Get out — the van is going to blow'. The

Continued on page 3, col 1

Grief and confusion, page 3
Leading article, page 21



Firemen preparing to take off the roof of the Transit van at the scene of the crash

Jobless down by 49,000

By Nicholas Wood

JOHN Major yesterday hailed a dramatic 49,000 fall in the October unemployment tally as further evidence that Britain stands at the threshold of prolonged prosperity.

In an optimistic assessment of the country's economic prospects, a buoyant prime minister pointed to "increasingly good news" on jobs, inflation and trade.

The latest monthly drop in the seasonally-adjusted unemployment total is the biggest for four and-a-half years. Unemployment is now 2,855,100 or 10.2 per cent, the lowest since September last year. It follows last week's surprise narrowing of the August trade deficit to £419 million from £1,064 million in July.

Jobless tumble, page 25

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Draw declared in Lamb-Sarfraz case

By John Young

SARFRAZ Nawaz, the former Pakistan fast bowler, yesterday withdrew his ball-gouging "cheating" case in the High Court after settling out of court his libel action against Allan Lamb, the England cricketer, and the *Daily Mirror*.

Earlier yesterday Don Oslear, the Test umpire, confirmed that the ball had been changed in the 1992 Headingley Test and during a one-day international at Lord's between England and Pakistan because of "illegal interference". At the time it was reported that the ball had gone out of shape.

Jonathan Crystal, Sarfraz's counsel, was granted leave to withdraw the action after reading a statement in which Lamb acknowledged that Sarfraz had played within the laws of cricket and did not cheat. Costs were awarded to Lamb, but Mirror Group Newspapers, which had indemnified him, said they would not be pursuing Sarfraz for his share.

Lamb said afterwards that he stood by everything he had said in evidence. Sarfraz said he regarded the outcome as the "greatest victory in my life". His name should never have been brought up, he said.

The England cricket authorities last night refused to comment on the possible repercussions of the case. The Test and County Cricket Board had a solicitor in court throughout the three-and-a-half-day hearing and Alan Smith, its chief executive, said last night it hoped to be able to comment today. During the hearing it was claimed the TCCB had failed to act on evidence of ball tampering.

Sarfraz declares, page 4

No defence evidence in Bulger trial

BARRISTERS for the two boys accused of murdering the toddler James Bulger, said yesterday that they would not be offering any defence evidence.

The prosecution ended its case yesterday, the 13th day of the trial, and with closing speeches due to start today the jury is expected to retire by next week.

The prosecution alleges that the two boys, who can only be described as Child A and Child B, stoned James, aged 2, to death on a railway line in Walton, Liverpool. It is claimed that the boys, both aged 10 at the time, had first kidnapped James from a shopping centre in Bootle. Both boys deny charges of murder and abduction.

At the end of the prosecution case, first David Turner QC, representing Child A, then Brian Walsh QC, for Child B, told the judge: "We offer no evidence."

The trial continues today.

'I am sorry', page 7

Enquiry demanded into spy blunders

By Michael Horsnell

ELECTRONICS expert Michael Smith was jailed for 25 years yesterday for selling secrets to the Russians, prompting immediate calls for an enquiry into intelligence blunders which allowed him to continue spying despite his communist past.

Sentencing Smith, 45, at the end of a nine-week Old Bailey trial, Mr Justice Blofeld told him: "You were prepared to betray the interests of this country for greed." Smith supplied defence secrets to the KGB after a blunder allowed him to regain security clearance seven years after it had been withdrawn because of the exposure of his communist links in 1978.

Last night Sir Nicholas Bonsor, chairman of the Commons defence select committee, said the committee would examine the affair to see whether a recommendation should be made for the matter to be referred to the Security Commission.

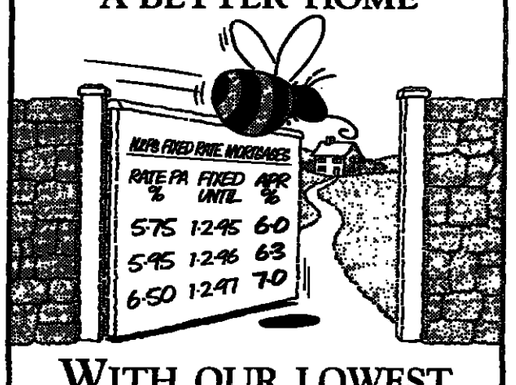
He said: "I am deeply concerned. We have to keep our intelligence secrets intact. I want a committee formed with a task of watching the watchers to make sure they are not misbehaving and are properly carrying out their duties. What has happened in the Smith case is astonishing."

Sir Teddy Taylor, vice-chairman of the Conservative home affairs committee, said "It's one of the most worrying and frightening cases we have seen for a long time. I would like the two or three people directly responsible for security to be invited in by a responsible government minister to go through the whole business of working out exactly what went wrong and to see how it can be prevented in the future."

Smith, who joined the Communist Party in 1972, was caught with documents on the Rapier missile system when Scotland Yard's special branch searched his flat in Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey, in August last year.

Unlikely agent, page 5

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NEWS IN BRIEF

CSA dispute fathers plan election battle

Opponents of the Child Support Agency are to run candidates in every constituency in the European elections next year. They hope to embarrass the government and force it to abandon new legislation that has led to some absent fathers having to pay greatly increased maintenance payments.

Dave Holder, organiser of a national campaign against the agency, said the Families First Party would call for a return to a court-based determination of maintenance payments. He said he had confirmed candidates for all the 87 constituencies in the UK. He will stand against Edwina Currie in South Bedfordshire.

Police helpers planned

The Home Office is examining plans to replace police with civilians in 44 areas of support work, such as licensing, computer work, coroners' courts and firearm controls. Eventually the work may be put out for compulsory competitive tendering, according to a *Local Government Chronicle* report today, based on a leaked paper.

Evidence too costly

Hull Crown Court was told yesterday that when Paul Raymond Shaw, 19, and two friends broke into a shop, Humberside police could not afford to send bloodstained clothes and glass for forensic tests because of financial restraints, so no action was taken against the two other men. Shaw, who admitted the burglary, was put on probation for 18 months.

Learner wins £130,000

A man who fell off his motorcycle during his test was awarded £138,202 against the Department of Transport yesterday after alleging that it let him take the test before he was ready. James Paterson, 52, of Mitcham, Surrey, sued the department for damages and loss of earnings as a result of the injuries he received in the accident in 1986.

Woman killed by train

A woman died yesterday after her car apparently skidded and crashed through the barriers at an unmanned level-crossing into the path of a high-speed train at Waterbeach, near Cambridge. The woman has not been named. Investigators are trying to find out if her car hit a patch of ice. Police said there were no suspicious circumstances.

Pit deaths 'an accident'

An inquest jury decided yesterday that the Bilsthorpe pit disaster, in which three men died when a roof collapsed, was a accident. It took them 35 minutes to reach the verdict. The inquest at Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, was told the accident would not have happened if two seams had not been worked "skin-to-skin", unsettling the rock.

Ship runs aground

Shetland islanders are calling for tougher safety regulations for vessels from eastern Europe after a second Russian factory ship has run aground in ten days. The crew of 68 men and five women of the *Borodinskoje Polye* were rescued after it was blown on to a reef north of Lerwick yesterday. Last week 60 crew of a Latvian factory ship were rescued after it ran aground. About 90 factory ships are anchored off Lerwick for the mackerel season.

Howard wins legal right to prevent prison lockout

BY RICHARD FORD
HOME CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL Howard last night won the first round of a legal battle to undermine the power of the Prison Officers' Association. He obtained a court order banning its members from taking industrial action next week.

Leaders of the 29,000-strong association were last night in emergency session deciding whether to obey the court injunction or face heavy fines or long prison sentences.

The home secretary won an injunction stopping the association from starting a three-day lockout from Monday of inmates sent to prison from police custody or the private sector.

The ruling, granted after a three-hour hearing heard in private at the High Court, raised the question as to whether the association is a trade union and liable to immunity under government union legislation.

At the end of the hearing, Mr Justice May said: "This is a matter of the greatest public importance and in my judgment the balance falls in favour of the injunction sought."

It was the first time a home secretary had gone to the courts in an attempt to undermine one of the last remaining powerful public sector unions.

Lawyers for the Home Office argued that since prison officers, like the police, have the ancient status of "constable", they were not ordinary workers. As such they did not enjoy immunity under the 1992 Trade Union and Labour Relations Act. Section 8 of the 1952 Prison Act gives every prison officer the powers of a constable.



Howard: first such court action by a home secretary

John Hendy QC, for the POA, said outside Mr Justice May's chambers that the logical consequence of the judge's decision was that the association was not a trade union. Lawyers representing the association, a union since 1939 and a member of the Trades Union Congress, are expected to launch an appeal against last night's ruling.

The POA leadership said it was an attempt by the home secretary to recreate a similar situation to that at GCHQ, where unions were banned in 1984.

John Bartell, the chairman of the POA, said: "I think it is a black day. Obviously this is the start of a long legal process. We are absolutely sure that in the long run the courts will decide that we are a trade union."

He said that it was shocking for the home secretary to use "shabby action and the courts" to re-create another GCHQ.

Last night's injunction bans the POA from a lockout that threatened to put 1,500-2,000 prisoners into police cells at a cost which prison service managers estimated at £1 million.

The legal action was aimed at the executive of the POA and branch secretaries in 133 jails in England and Wales. Prison service officials believe the time is ripe for action against the POA because there was less than a 50 per cent return in a postal ballot on industrial action. Members of the executive and branch secretaries face fines or prison if they disobey the court injunction and incite other members of the association to break their contract.

Derek Lewis, the director-general of the service, which is facing a crisis of overcrowding, denied that the court action was an attempt to break the union which remains powerful in most prisons, even though privatisation has begun to erode its position.

Mr Lewis said: "We have made it clear a great many times that we want to have constructive industrial relations taken forward on a co-operative basis in the prison service and that remains very much our wish."

He said he hoped the POA would accept the court ruling so that the prison service could get back to work.

Psychologists write off graphology

BY ANDREW PIERCE

BRITISH firms that employ handwriting experts as part of their recruitment process are wasting their money, according to a new study of graphology.

An assessment by the British Psychological Society of 30 years of scientific investigation into the science has concluded that it is "mumbo-jumbo".

"Companies will have just as much success pulling an applicant's name out of a hat," Dr Donald McLeod, who led the research, said. But the society provoked an angry reaction from handwriting experts when it admitted it had not carried out any tests of its own. The society had no examples of handwriting of distinctive figures to support its claims that there was no connection between job suitability and the flow of a pen.

Dr McLeod, the former chairman of the society's steering committee on test standards, was undeterred by the protests. He said: "There is no scientific evidence to support the claims of graphologists." Dr McLeod, who produced eight pages of data to support his views, all of which summarised the conclusions of other authors, said at a briefing in London that handwriting experts had no role in the recruitment process.

Handwriting experts are considered an essential part of the recruitment process in Germany, France and Switzerland. Large British firms, such as Heron and Warburgs, always analyse the handwriting of job applicants before they make key appointments. A spokesman for the Warburgs Group said it was not planning to drop its handwriting experts.

Mary Nicholson, of the Graphology Business in London, said: "The society has not conducted a single test of its own . . . so how can it make these outrageous claims?"

Leading article, page 21

Christmas books

Some copies of today's Christmas books supplement carry an incorrect date on page one. We apologise for the error.

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

Menacing Dennis has royal beano

Briefly, yesterday, the Bash Street Kids took over. It lasted seven minutes. In what will become known as the Short Parliament, the Commons chamber was occupied by a gang of desperados. While the Queen was opening parliament in the Lords, Dennis Skinner and his chums in the Commons passed an act abolishing her. It was like that episode in *Animal Farm*: the ruling pigs were at a party, and the other animals took over the farmyard.

They chose their moment well. The Tories and the respectable part of the Labour party had followed Madam Speaker to the Lords for the Queen's speech, and the coast was clear.

The Skinner gang struck. They occupied the Speaker's chair and proposed two new laws, abolishing not only the monarchy but the aristocracy too. They were on the point of disestablishing the Church of England when they were interrupted by the return of the grown-ups.

It had started quietly, as MPs arrived to await the summons to the Lords. Betty Boothroyd was spectacular in lace, black and gold: Dame Jill Knight wore a sort of interplanetary white bonnet. Peter Shore was in suit and jersey. Black Rod entered, bearing his rod.

Last year, Mr Skinner challenged him to a game of snooker. This year he watched with an expression of amused scorn while the royal emissary declared: "Madam Speaker, the Queen commands this honourable House to attend to Her Majesty in the House of peers." Everybody upped and trooped out.

Everybody, that is, except for Dennis, and a tiny group of Labour MPs, including Dale Campbell-Savours, Graham Allen (in red socks) and Don Dixon, deputy chief opposition whip. Most of the Labour party had gone. There was not a single Tory in the chamber.

A moment's silence, then: "Let's abolish the House of Lords!" Mr Skinner rose and climbed up to the empty chair. His mates giggled. He sat in it. "Order! Order!" Bearded Jeremy Corbyn (Lab, Islington N) sauntered in, tieless. "Are you dressed properly?" drawled Mr Skinner. "The motion is that this House do agree that we abolish the House of Lords. All those in favour, say 'Aye'." A ragged but enthusiastic shout of assent greeted him.

"All those against, say 'No'." Silence. "The ayes have it, the ayes have it," declared Mr Skinner. At last the revolution! He must have thought he was dreaming. Up jumped Mr Corbyn: "Mr Speaker, the second motion relates to the monarchy."

"Are you suitably dressed and on your knees? Have you the appropriate kneepads?" demanded Mr Skinner. "Yes, sir". "All those in favour of abolishing the monarchy?" "Aye!" "All those against?" Mr Allen shouted "No!", but could find no seconder.

"I declare the motion carried," announced Mr Skinner, refusing to take points of order, and swept out.

A motion to disestablish the Church of England was circulated, but before the revolutionary agenda could be proceeded with further, the enemy was at the door. Madam Speaker arrived back and climbed into her seat.

Did she notice it was warm? Would she, like Mummy Bear, ask: "Who's been sitting in my chair?" It seemed not.

Mr Skinner had just provided us with the first break in constitutional authority since the Civil War. As in those ancient mockeries in which the Lords of Misrule temporarily take over, we had been reminded how thin is the line between order and chaos. Let us hope Betty never finds out. Mum's the word!

Crime crackdown, page 10
Back to basics, page 11

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'These were the loveliest children ... They were the cream and had everything going for them'

Pupils, parents and teachers share grief and confusion

BY BILL FROST

GROUPS of sobbing pupils gathered in the pale morning sunlight outside Hagley Roman Catholic High School yesterday to mourn the friends and classmates they would never see again.

The children clung to each other and cried inconsolably as teachers attempted to comfort them. A middle-aged woman, her eyes red-rimmed, left a wreath against a tree, the first of many tributes from a community united in shock and sorrow.

Annette, who knew several of those who died in the accident, held back her tears long enough to express bewilderment over what had happened. "I can't believe this, it is just too awful, it's not fair.

"I just can't believe I will never see them again. They were such nice people and I won't forget them — no one at Hagley will ever forget them," said the 13-year-old.

At the classroom windows blank-faced children stared out at the line of trees where local people came to lay wreaths for the dead. In the town itself, near Stourbridge, a Union Jack flew at half-mast and shop assistants wore black armbands.

"Open all day. Come in and pray" read the sign outside an Anglican church close to the school. A steady stream of local people arrived throughout the morning and afternoon to mourn the dead children and their teacher.

One elderly man said: "If there is a God, why did he allow this to happen? They were just children with their whole lives ahead of them."

Paul Hill, the headmaster of Hagley High, struggled with his own shock and grief as he told reporters of the pupils who died. "These were the loveliest children I have known. They were bright, the cream, and had everything going for them. This school has lost 11 of the nicest children anyone could wish to meet, also we have lost a dedicated teacher. My heart and prayers together with all the staff go out to the parents of these children."

Ted Hammond, Mr Hill's deputy, had the difficult task of meeting many of the pupils at the school gate as they arrived early in the morning. He said it would take a long time for everyone to get over the tragedy. "I have been at other schools before where children died in a single incident, but I can't remember a more awful incident than this," he said.

Among the children killed in the collision were young musicians who had played for the Pope in Rome and at the shrines of Assisi and Lourdes. A party of 24 pupils and three teachers had travelled to London in two minibuses to attend the Schools Prom at the Albert Hall — a trip children from Hagley High have been making for the past nine years.

The two buses, one driven by Eleanor Fry, 35, the maths and music teacher who died with her pupils, left the school at 2.30pm on Wednesday. After a break in their journey they would have arrived in London about three hours later for the concert.

Parents waiting at the school on Wednesday night for their children to return to London were told of the accident by the school's caretaker and police officers.

One father had already heard news of a motorway accident on local radio. He told the headmaster that he immediately feared the worse. "He said to me at that moment he knew it was his child," Mr Hill said.

Mass was said yesterday at Hagley High with both staff and children vainly attempting to come to terms with their loss. Father Kevin Kavanagh said: "I have got no easy answers, no wand I can wave to produce magical solutions to what has happened."

Some pupils went home at lunchtime, their eyes red and puffy with tears. Others went through the motions of attending classes but, as one put it: "How can you think of anything but the dead at a time like this?"

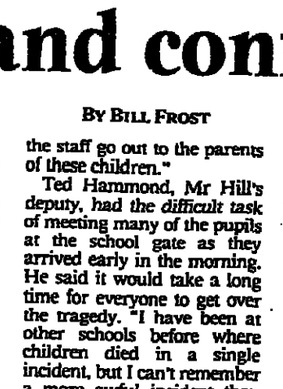
A team of ten trauma counsellors arrived at the school just after prayers yesterday morning. Over the coming weeks they will be treating all those who have difficulty coping with the tragedy.

Simon O'Loughlin, the consultant clinical psychologist leading the team, said the staff and pupils he had seen so far were in a state of shock and confusion. "We must help them understand those emotions. There will be grief, numbness, anger and possibly guilt. Some, perhaps those who survived, will feel they should have died in the crash instead of those killed."

☐ Police and transport department investigators yesterday visited the company that owned the coach involved in last week's crash on the M2 in which nine American and Canadian tourists and the driver were killed.

Kent police said a number of officers had gone to the offices of the Travellers company, based in Hounslow, west London, as part of the enquiries.

Accident investigators believe the coach may have clipped a transit van travelling in front of it before spinning out of control in the wet.



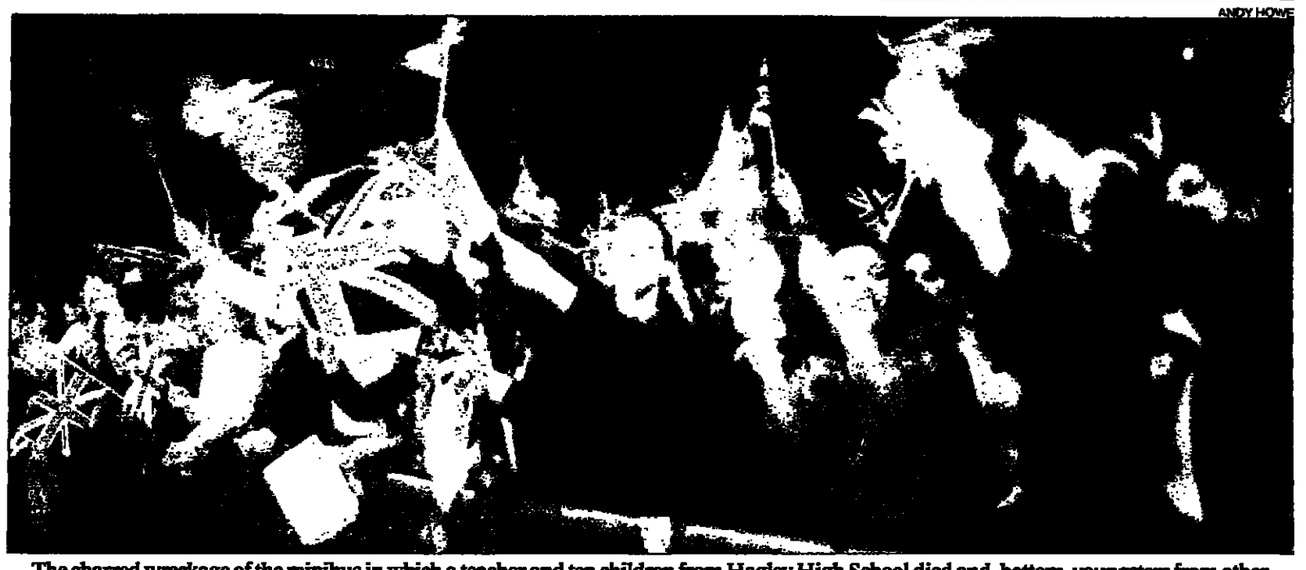
Hill: "My heart and prayers go to parents"

Safety demands, page 1
Libby Purves, page 18
Leading article, page 21

PAUL TREACY



ANDY HOWE



The charred wreckage of the minibus in which a teacher and ten children from Hagley High School died and, bottom, youngsters from other schools throughout Britain enjoying the concert at the Royal Albert Hall that victims of the crash had been attending on Wednesday

Young music-lovers remembered in concert tribute

BY EDWARD GORMAN

LAST night's audience at the Royal Albert Hall held a minute's silence in memory of the children who died in the M40 crash.

The BBC is expected to make its own dedication to the victims when it broadcasts highlights of the three-day festival of music on Radio 2 tomorrow.

Patrick Deuchar, a spokesman for the concert hall, said the children had enjoyed a glorious evening of music there on Wednesday. The Schools Prom featured pupils from all over the country playing to thousands of children in the presence of Prince Edward.

The final night included performances by an orchestra from Devon, a blues band from Sutton, Surrey, and children from Middlesbrough who played traditional Chinese instruments.

"It was wonderful to see so many different children of different disciplines and ages enjoying themselves in such a great way," Mr Deuchar said. "The whole hall is deeply shocked by this. It is a very, very rough thing for anybody to have to deal with. We arranged a minute's silence at the start of the evening's concert as a mark of respect."

Geoffrey Hewitt, editor of specialist music for Radio 2, which has broadcast the prom over the years, said he understood that Hagley High School had been a keen supporter of the festival. "It was the final night of the three days, with 'Land of Hope and Glory'," he said. "It was a great celebration of young people and a great celebration of the spirit of music."

Mr Hewitt said that Richard Stilgoe, who helped to compere the event, would be recording a special dedication to the crash victims for transmission tomorrow. There could also be a more permanent memorial at the festival in years to come.

Pressure grows for minibuses safety law

Continued from page 1

tyres were exploding and petrol tank was fizzling. There was thick black smoke everywhere. We did the best we could."

Police officers said the scene was the most horrific they had ever witnessed. "The bodies of the dead were burnt beyond recognition," said one officer. "The only way we knew that many of the victims were children was by their height. They just didn't stand a chance. We all had tears in our eyes."

Dr Bernard Tedd, 35, a physics and science teacher at Hagley High School, was at the wheel of the following vehicle. Choking with emotion, he described the scene as he came across the stricken minibus. "As we travelled through Warwickshire we could see flames up ahead in the distance. Most of the children in my bus were asleep, except for a couple sitting just behind me."

"As we got nearer to the fire, I slowed down and pulled over into the middle lane and we noticed it was a minibus. I was not sure whether it was Eleanor's or not. It is one of those terrible feelings you get in your stomach that it could be, but I wasn't sure. I noticed a policeman standing there and some of the children said there were people lying on the ground."

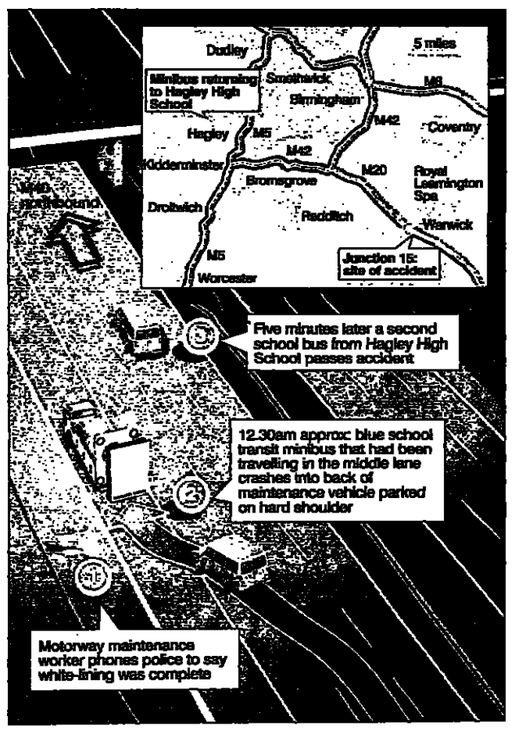
Dr Tedd said he decided not to stop for several reasons. He was not sure if it was the other school bus. "Also, the emergency services were there, so I didn't think there was anything I could do. The flames were an inferno and I didn't want the kids in the back to be distressed by anything they might see."

Dr Tedd said the trip to the schools prom was organised by Miss Fry. She asked him to drive one of the school's two minibuses so they could take 28 children on the trip. Dr Tedd said the pupils were "happy and excited" when they set off from the school to enjoy a three-hour performance by orchestras and choirs.

Leading article, page 21

'Nicola would have been 13 today. It is a tragedy'

BY EDWARD GORMAN



TWO of the children killed in the M40 minibus crash were about to celebrate their thirteenth birthdays, it emerged yesterday. Another, who died in hospital yesterday, had ambitions to go on the stage.

Nicola Misiolek was to have celebrated her birthday yesterday. At her home in Stourbridge, presents and cards remained unopened as her family tried to come to terms with her death.

A family friend spoke last night of the anguish of her parents, Anne and Anthony Misiolek. "They are lying down. They are shattered and devastated. It is a tragedy. Nicola would have been 13 today, and I believe there was a party planned as she was entering her teens. I really cannot say any more. It is just so upsetting."

As relatives and friends rallied round, her grandmother, Dorothy Misiolek, who lives in the same street, told how Nicola had looked forward to the Schools Prom in London, from which the children were returning when they crashed. She said Nicola had a passion for animals, which the girl hoped might lead to a career as a vet.

"Nicola was a lovely girl," she said. "She was good at school. All her presents are still on the desk in the living room. She was looking forward to her birthday so much."

Charlotte Bligh of Halesowen, was to have celebrated her thirteenth birthday tomorrow. Joanne Hawkins, 23, her cousin, said Charlotte was an enthusiastic pupil at Hagley High School. "She was learning to play the violin and she loved ballet."

The girl who died yesterday, bringing the death toll to 12, was Charlene O'Dowd, 12, who suffered multiple injuries and underwent emergency surgery at the South Warwickshire Hospital before being transferred to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham.

She had ambitions to make her career in the theatre and for the past four years had been taking dancing and acting classes at the Betty Fox Stage School in Birmingham, where she was described by her teacher as a star pupil.

"She was a very bright girl with a nice, bright personality. I think she wanted to go into the theatre and would have liked to go on to full-time stage school," Betty Fox said.

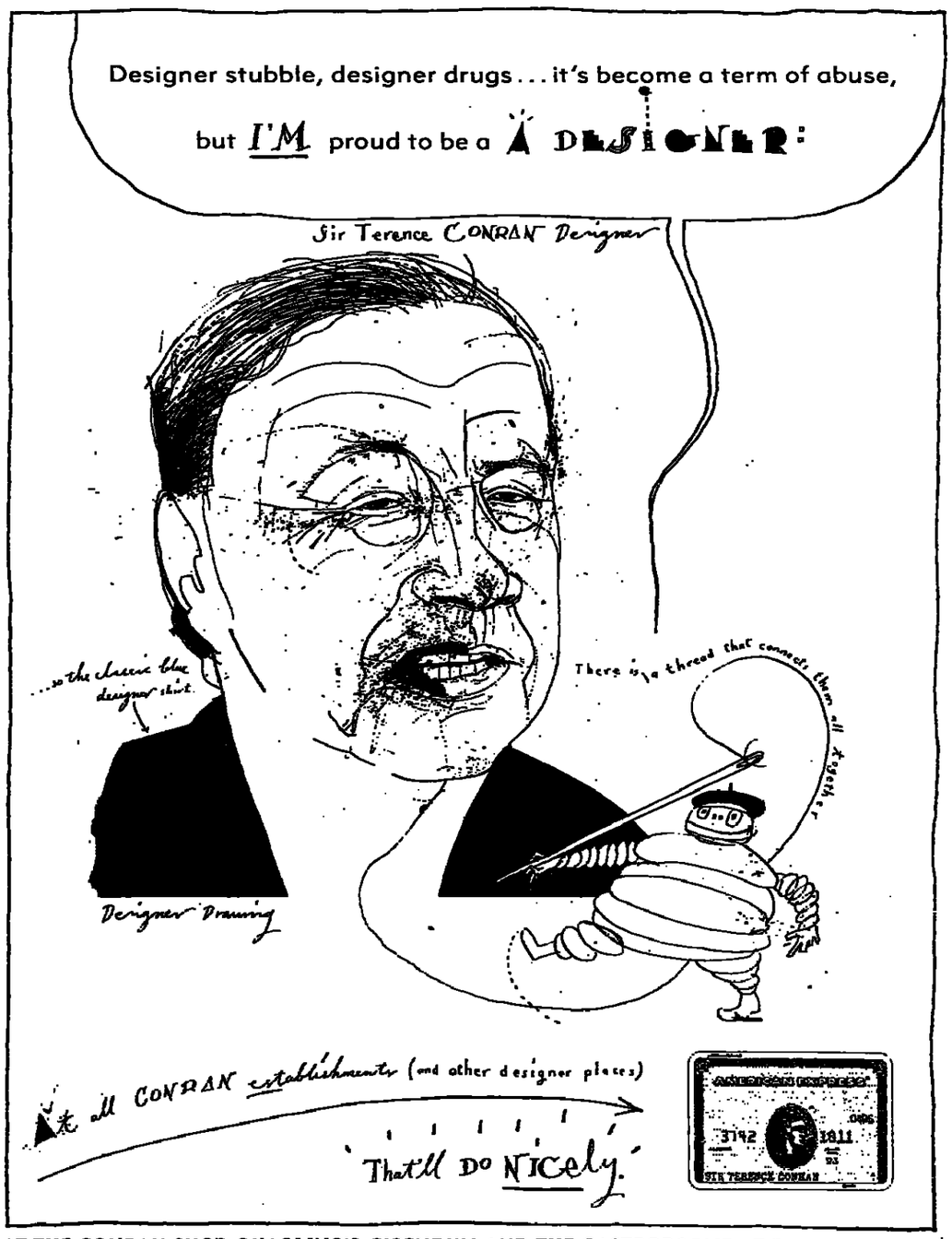
Mrs Fox said Charlene had made an early mark on the stage, appearing in the chorus of a Royal Shakespeare production of *As You Like It* at Stratford Upon Avon and in other productions at the Birmingham repertory theatre. She also appeared in a number of charity shows.

Eleanor Fry, 35, the teacher who was driving the minibus, had been on the staff at Hagley for more than 10 years and had regularly driven the school bus on special outings such as the one to the London concert.

Her timetable was split between teaching mathematics and music. "She gave a great deal of time to the school, and took several trips abroad. She was a very dedicated teacher and had driven the minibus many, many times," said Alec Mackie, a spokesman for Hereford and Worcester council.

Mr Mackie said all the children who died were interested in music. "They were young, vibrant children who could have been your own children," he said.

Those who died in the accident were James Hickman, 12, of Bath Street, Dudley; Ruth Clark, 12, of Leaholme Gardens, Stourbridge; Nicola Misiolek, 12, of Harrison Road, Stourbridge; Fiona Cook, 12, of Cranborne Road, Stourbridge; Richard Pagett, 12, of Hoo Road, Kidderminster; Clare Fitzgerald, 13, of Bannut Tree House, Bewdley; Adele Howell, 12, of Balden Road, Birmingham; Anna Mansell, 14, of Linnet Rise, Kidderminster; Charlotte Bligh, 12, of Halesowen Road, Halesowen; Louise Gunn, 12, of Aspen Walk, Stourport; and Charlene O'Dowd, 12.



AT THE CONRAN SHOP, QUAGLINO'S, BIBENDUM AND THE GASTRODROME AT BUTLERS WHARF.

Sarfraz declares before Botham can take the crease

By John Young

Two international cricketers believe their honour remains unblemished as their legal bowling ends without a result

THE most charismatic cricketer of his generation sat padded up in the pavilion at the High Court yesterday, only to find that the umpires had drawn stumps before he was required to bat.

Ian Botham had been due to give evidence on behalf of Allan Lamb, his England colleague, who was defending a libel action brought by Sarfraz Nawaz, the former Pakistan fast bowler. But after an adjournment of nearly four hours on the fourth day of the hearing, the court was told that Sarfraz had withdrawn his action after Lamb had acknowledged that he was not a cheat.

The case concerned an article in the *Daily Mirror* on August 26 last year, in which Lamb alleged that Sarfraz had told him some years ago how he got a cricket ball to swing by roughing up one side with his fingernails. The article implied that the same "trick" had been passed on to the present generation of Pakistan bowlers who had used it to good effect last year.

Yesterday morning the court heard evidence from Don Oslear, the third umpire at last year's fourth Test match at Headingley and at the one-day international at Lord's in August when the ball was changed during the lunch interval. Mr Oslear was asked by David Eady QC, counsel for Lamb, whether he had noticed anything unusual about the ball during the Headingley match. "I did, sir," he replied.

In his opinion the ball was beginning to be scoured on one side by an outside agency. Was it his view that the state of the ball had been achieved by illegal means, he was asked. "In my opinion it is not possible to scour a ball like that by legal means," Mr Oslear answered.

He said he was present when the ball used in the Lord's match was shown to the match referee. On that occasion the ball had lines cut across it on one side. Mr Oslear said he had been asked to bring Intikhab Alam, the Pakistan manager, to the umpires' room. Mr Alam had raised no objection to the decision to change the ball.

No public announcement had been made but Mr Alam later said the reason for the change was that the ball had gone out of shape. Mr Oslear told the court that the reason was that there had been illegal interference with the ball.

Robin Smith, the England batsman, who played in all five Test matches and all five one-day internationals last year, was asked whether he had seen any illegal interference. Depending on who was bowling, it happened two or three times an over, Smith replied. The main culprits were Wasim Akram, Waqar Younis and Aqib Javed.

Asked what he understood by the phrase "reverse swing", Smith said he understood that it occurred when the bowler was able to rough up one side of the ball. When the ball was shined on one side in the conventional manner it was usually easy to see, but the reverse swing was much more difficult to spot.

When the jury returned after the adjournment, Jonathan Crystal, for Sarfraz, said that as Lamb had acknowledged in evidence that Sarfraz played by the laws of cricket and did not cheat in the games in which they both played, his client asked for leave to withdraw the action.

After granting leave, Mr Justice Otton asked Smith to stand. "I am sure the jury and everyone else in the court would like to congratulate you on your selection to tour the West Indies and we wish you every success," he said.

The judge also dealt with the disposal of cricket balls used in evidence. He decided that six should be given to the jury, he would keep one and the other three should be given to the Royal Courts of Justice cricket team.

After the hearing Lamb said he stood by everything he said in evidence and was grateful to his fellow cricketers who were prepared to stand up and be counted. "I contested the case for the same reason that I wrote the article," he said. "I was not prepared to tolerate breaches of the laws of cricket." Sarfraz said he was delighted by the outcome.

Charles Collier Wright, legal manager of Mirror Group Newspapers, said although the company had been awarded costs, it would not be pressing Sarfraz for his share.

Lamb wins, page 1

TONY WHITE



Robin Smith, left, Ian Botham and Allan Lamb, England cricketers past and present, outside the High Court yesterday

Man on run over child support bill

A FATHER of four was on the run last night after the Child Support Agency requested that a warrant be issued for his arrest. Magistrates in Telford, Shropshire, issued the warrant for Tony Pye, 35, from Blackpool, after he was unable to meet a maintenance bill which the agency had increased from £28 a month to £144 a week.

The case is believed to be the first of its kind in Britain.

Speaking from a secret address yesterday Mr Pye, who has three children from his first marriage and one from his second, said: "I have been told by the police on the phone that they have a warrant. I am not giving myself up. I don't think I have done anything wrong."

Mr Pye, a self-employed insurance salesman, had a heart attack earlier this year and went into arrears with his payments. Two months ago the agency issued the new maintenance assessment.

The warrant might give fathers angered by the actions of the agency, which formulates maintenance payments, the chance to have a court rule of its actions.

Mr Pye said: "I shall fight this in court and it could well be the sort of loophole the so-called absent fathers are looking for. If that is the case then being arrested could be worth it."

Four held after rocket killing

By Ian Murray

FOUR Welsh football supporters were arrested yesterday following the death of a 67-year-old spectator at Wednesday evening's World Cup qualifying match. He was killed by a marine rocket fired 150 yards into the crowd at Cardiff Arms Park.

The four, all from North Wales, were held after police checked details of tickets sold on the south terraces, where they found the plastic launcher tube for the rocket, which reaches a speed of 400mph.

John Hill, a retired Hoover worker of Merthyr Tydfil, Mid Glamorgan, died instantly. A witness said he was hit with tremendous force. He had been taken to the match as a treat by his son John, 28.

Despite police warnings before the match, several flares were fired during the game and exploding fireworks almost drowned out the Romanian national anthem.

The rocket, 1ft long and 1½in in diameter, could have been concealed in a deep pocket. The flares, selling for about £20, have to be carried by all ocean-going ships, while yacht owners are recommended to carry them if travelling out of sight of land. Fired horizontally they cover the first 100 yards in under a second.

Photograph, page 24

Race killer attacks policeman in court

A BOY leapt from the dock of an Old Bailey court yesterday and attacked a policeman responsible for his conviction, as the jury returned their verdicts for his part in the racial killing of an Afghan refugee.

Barry Hannon, 17, sought out Det Inspector Mark Veljovic, the officer in charge of the case, and began raining blows down on him. Mr Veljovic, who is in charge of the 4 Area Crime Squad in Thornton Heath, Surrey, was hit several times before Hannon was restrained by six prison officers.

Hannon and two other teenage defendants were then brought back, one at a time, and sentenced. Hannon, his brother Paul, 18, both from Thornton Heath, and Joseph Curtin, 17, also from Thornton Heath, were all found guilty of murder. Barry Hannon and Curtin were ordered to be detained at Her Majesty's pleasure and Paul Hannon was sentenced to life imprisonment.

The jury had heard that a 20-strong group of white youths bludgeoned Mr Arameshto death, while hurling racial abuse, in the street outside his home. They were armed with bars, bricks and lumps of wood.

They left Mr Arameshdying on the street. He never regained consciousness after suffering severe brain damage and lost his fight for life two days later.

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هكذا من الأصل

مكبّرة من الأصل

Unlikely agent played flamenco guitar, failed to learn Russian and betrayed his country for greed

'Boring' idealist who spied for Russia gets 25 years

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

AN ELECTRONICS engineer was jailed for 25 years yesterday after an Old Bailey jury found him guilty of three charges of spying for Russia.

Mr Justice Blofeld told Michael Smith at the end of a nine-week trial, mostly held in camera, that he had betrayed his country for greed. Smith, who faced four charges under the Official Secrets Act, was acquitted of making handwritten notes of five sensitive projects for a purpose prejudicial to the interests of the state. The notes included details of the "Star Wars" project.

"Citizen" Smith, 45, a hardline Stalinist with an exotic taste for Spanish music and dancing, used the London borough of Kingston upon Thames in the 1970s as the unlikely launchpad for communist subversion. But any similarity with the television cult character from the Tooting Liberation Front ended there, as he evolved from youthful ideologist in the Young Communist League to a hardened Soviet spy for up to 17 years.

Smith, who worked at two of Britain's top defence research companies, where he signed the Official Secrets Act, was a curious contradiction of flamboyance and introversion. Affable, according to some; to others, an insufferable bore with political tunnel-vision.

But a passion for Spanish flamenco filled his leisure hours, as dancer and guitarist at La Pena Flamenca de Londres, a club that meets in the Seven Dials social club at Covent Garden. At home, guests recall, he cooked sumptuous Spanish and Mexican dishes and served home-made wine. His nocturnal habits, too, excited curiosity. Regularly neighbours saw him working through the night.

Curiously though, from his first-floor flat in a semi-detached house called Walsingham in Burton Road, Kingston — commemorating Sir Francis Walsingham, spymaster to Queen Elizabeth I — neighbours were frequently treated to the sound of his guitar and the bouquet of paella. What they did not see were documents he hid on the Rapier missile system, or bundles of £50 notes from the £20,000 he earned as an "access agent" in the 18 months before his arrest.

Nor did they know that the tall, well-dressed man who tinkered with his Datsun at weekends was also skilled in "tradecraft" — the signals an agent and his controller use to communicate. He learnt tradecraft in August 1977 on a KGB training mission to the Portuguese city of Oporto, ranked after Lisbon, Vienna and Geneva as a watering hole for the intelligence services. He visited the USSR in 1975 when, Scotland Yard's special branch suspects, his espionage contract was sealed.

Smith, whose interest in communism was sparked by Vuk Nenandobik, a Yugoslav with whom he shared a flat while at Surrey University, took Russian lessons at Kingston education centre but never mastered the language. He travelled often, visiting Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and Spain, but detectives have been unable to prove whether a visit to the US in 1976 was at the behest of the KGB. Born in Barking, Essex, on September 22, 1948, the son of a marine engineer, Smith grew up in a semi-detached house in Sheppey Road, Dagenham. The family moved six miles to South Ockendon, where Smith distinguished himself at school, securing 10 GCE O-level passes and four A levels.

At university his academic career declined as his political interests developed and he graduated in 1971 as a BSc with only a pass degree in electronic and electrical engineering. He became a trainee at a Midlands firm but moved to Rediffusion in 1972, a year in which two important events occured. With growing trade union interests, Smith joined the Communist Party of Great Britain; meanwhile Viktor Oschenko came to London.Oschenko, a KGB colonel who arrived in the guise of second secretary at the Soviet embassy, recruited him. How they met is not clear but it was Oschenko who betrayed him to MI5 two decades later after his defection to the West. Det Chief Supt Malcolm MacLeod, the special branch officer in charge of the case, said: "It was only through Oschenko that he was caught. He had been suspected but there was no evidence."

He is known to have spent much of the £20,000 on computers, synthesisers and musical equipment but is believed to have earned much more from his espionage career.

In 1975 he became secretary of the Kingston branch of the Young Communist League. Richard Geldart, former secretary of the Surrey branch, explains that the Kingston area had its own folk club and amounted to "the best screwing club in Britain".

Mr Geldart, now a private detective, said: "Mike Smith was a sensationally intense and impossibly boring character. I was not the least bit surprised to learn about these allegations."

On October 27, 1979, Smith married Pamela Winter, a divorcee, at Kingston register office. She was an overseas sales co-ordinator from Chiswick, west London. The couple, who are childless, were a formidable duo on the dancefloor. As Smith became too old to dance well, he played the guitar in private and at charity events while his wife whirled the flamenco.

Smith's lawyers contemplated calling as witness Oleg Kalugin, the former KGB general questioned recently over the murder of the dissident Bulgarian Georgi Markov, hoping to overturn evidence of Soviet spy procedures.

Mrs Smith, 43, was arrested with her husband on August 8 last year and interviewed for three days while Special Branch took their flat apart. Before being released, she told Mr MacLeod that she had had suspicions about her husband, particularly over his campaign to have his security clearance reinstated, and had once asked him: "Are you a friend of this country?"

Blunder enquiry, page 1



MATTHEW LAWRENCE

Michael Smith in the dock at the Old Bailey. He earned £20,000 as an "access agent" in the 18 months before his arrest

The mole who nearly got away

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL Smith was the spy who nearly got away. He was suspected of being a KGB mole in 1976, but lack of evidence and a failure by MI5 to keep tabs on his career enabled him to join a prestige defence company and continue passing on secrets to his Russian controller.

The Old Bailey trial showed how new-style Russian intelligence officers are still very much in the espionage game, focusing more than ever on the West's high technology secrets. Smith came under suspicion 17 years ago when there were fears that material was being leaked from Thorn-EMI, where he worked. Smith was watched, along with others, but nothing came of it. He was good at eluding his "watchers" and MI5 had inadequate resources to mount long-term surveillance on a man who gave no sign of being a potential "big fish". Smith, it was judged, was not worth it. Proof of his long-term treachery came only last year when his KGB controller defected.



Smith: came under suspicion 17 years ago

There was, however, one serious blunder. MI5 was unaware that Smith had lied on his positive vetting form when applying for security clearance for a job as a test engineer on a top secret weapons project at Thorn-EMI in Feltham, west London, in 1976. He failed to reveal that he was a member of an extremist organisation, the Communist party.

This was discovered in 1978, although he denied it. In 1980 Smith confessed to an MI5 officer but he assured him that he was disillusioned with the party and was no longer involved. His KGB contacts had, in fact, told him to leave the party because of the risk of arousing suspicion. MI5 was used to dealing with reformed communists and gave Smith the benefit of the doubt. Five years later, having been made redundant by Thorn EMI, Smith began working at GEC's Hirst electronics research centre, then at Wembley, in northwest London. The centre regularly received classified defence information.

Since Smith was no longer on the suspect list, MI5 did not intervene. His clearance was sufficient to give him access to commercial secrets of defence companies bidding for ministry contracts.

Despite much of the evidence being given in camera, it is believed his biggest coup was to provide the Russians with information about the RAF's WE177 freefall nuclear bomb.

Defector lifts lid on spy network

BY OUR DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

VIKTOR Oschenko, the controller who betrayed Michael Smith after defecting, has given an insight into the continuing operations of Russian intelligence officers employed by the SVR, which replaced the KGB. Oschenko worked for Directorate T (science and technology), known as "Line X" by Russian intelligence officers serving abroad.

Since the fall of communism, the Russian foreign intelligence service has been cut back, but there are still about 11,000 SVR officers abroad — many working under diplomatic cover — compared with 15,000 a few years ago. Between 10 and 20 are in Britain. In Germany there are more than 140, down from 250. The main focus is still the United States.

Oschenko's information suggests the Russians are concentrating their intelligence-gathering missions on high technology and confidential political material.

They have adapted their agent recruiting techniques to the changing world. Money has replaced the shared ideology carrot, and became the prime mover for Smith's treachery.

When recruiting new agents, an SVR officer is more likely to choose people in sensitive jobs who resent their bosses' big pay awards, dislike Thatcherism or Majorism or have negative equity problems with their mortgages.

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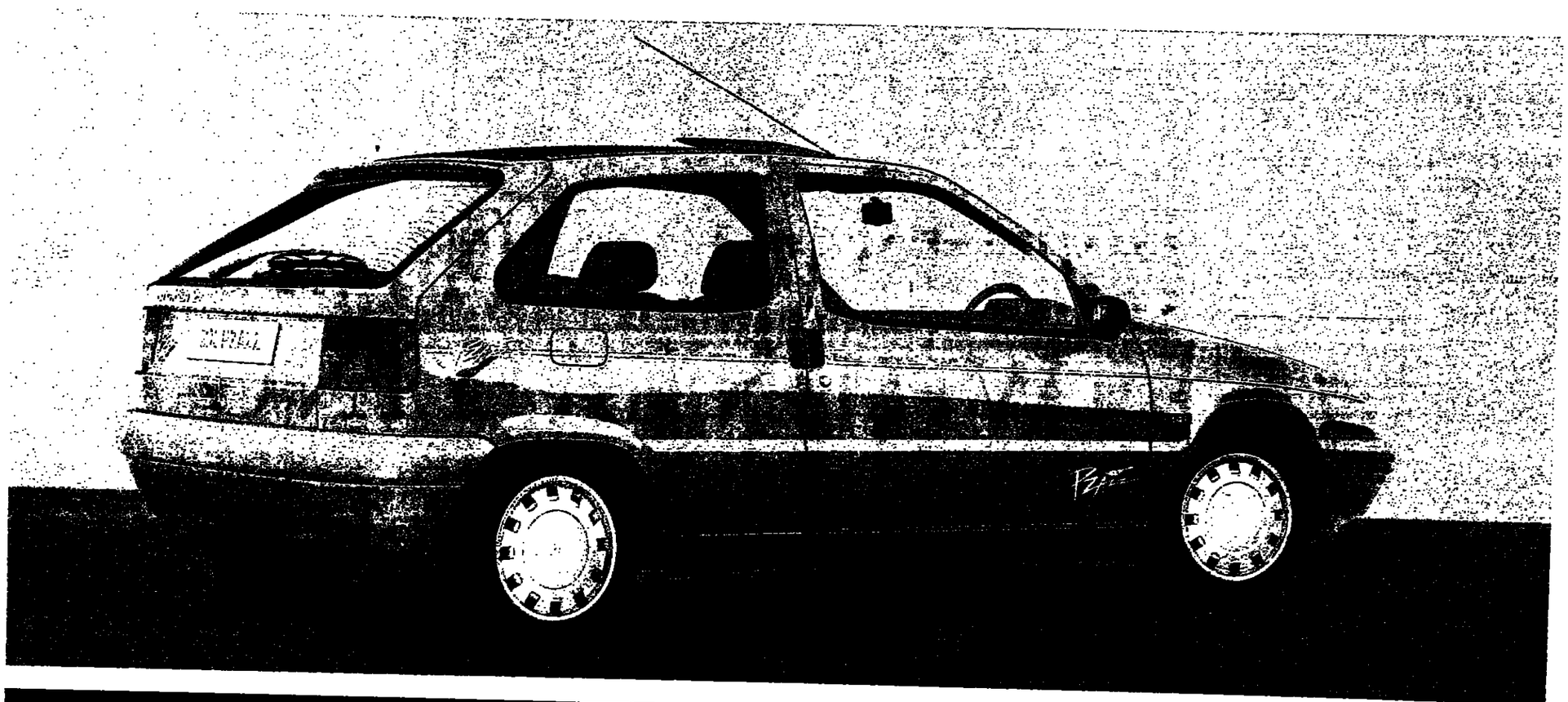
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James Bulger murder trial

'What about his mum? Will you tell her I am sorry?'

BY A STAFF REPORTER

THE James Bulger jury yesterday heard a taped interview in which one of the accused boys allegedly confessed to taking part in the killing. The 11-year-old said that the victim had pleaded with him: "Don't hurt me."

The boy, who can be identified only as Child B, told police in the recorded interview that while two-year-old James was lying on a railway track after being attacked with bricks and an iron bar and being repeatedly kicked, he knelt by him "to see if he was all right".

In the interview, played at Preston Crown Court, the boy was heard describing how both boys kicked the youngster after his co-accused, described as Child A, threw the bricks and bar at him.

Child B said James had grabbed his coat as he knelt down by him. He told the detectives interviewing him: "He said 'Don't hurt me' and I said 'All right'."

He was asked by Det Con Mark Dale: "Did Child A kneel down to him?"

He replied: "No, he was just kicking him in the knees and everything. I said 'Will you stop it, he's scared', and all that." Both boys, who were aged 10 at the time, deny the abduction and murder of James and the attempted abduction of another two-year-old-boy on the same day.

Earlier yesterday the court was told how, after more than three hours of questioning, Child B allegedly confessed to taking part in the killing on a railway line in Walton, Liverpool, on February 12, after James was taken from the Strand shopping centre in Bootle.

He finally told police: "I did kill him." He added: "What about his mum, will you tell her I'm sorry?"

In the same interview, in which Child B said he knelt by James, he told police that he and Child A had put bricks on the boy, "covering his face". He told the detectives: "It was Child A's idea, he said so nobody can see him."

Mr Dale: "Trying to hide him?" Child B: "Yeah."

Mr Dale: "Was he moving?" Child B: "Yeah, I think so, 'cos the bricks were moving a bit, like nearly falling off."

After describing what the boys did after leaving the railway, Child B was told he had "missed something out". Mr Dale: "Didn't someone kick him?" Child B: "Oh yeah, me ... only light, and I punched him light on the reservoir."

Mr Dale: "Didn't you push him and didn't you kick him while you were up at the line?" Child B: "No, Child A did."

He also admitted he kicked James in the chest and middle and had "punched him in the face a few times, light".

He said Child A had stamped on the toddler. "I think it was in the legs or something."

He later admitted he had kicked him in the face. He told the officers: "He's, he's kicked him in the face loads of times, I only kicked him once or twice." He said it had happened "half-way through ... when Child A was throwing bricks".

Mr Dale: "How many times did you kick him in the face?" Child B: "Twice, I think. Once."

Mr Dale: "And did you punch him in the face?" Child B: "Yeah."

The trial continues.

No defence evidence, page 1

Hundreds pay last respects to Laura

BY RONALD FAUX

LAURA Davies, who died last week after two multiple transplant operations in America, was buried yesterday near her home in Eccles, Greater Manchester, watched by hundreds of local people who had supported her struggle to survive.

They stood in silence by the roadside as her coffin was carried to the Church of the Holy Cross in a hearse drawn by two black-plumed shire horses.

Father Terry Drainey, the parish priest, told the packed church that five-year-old Laura had achieved in a childlike way what many great men and women of history had tried to do and failed. In her short but precious life she had united people of different rank, culture, religion and race, he said.

Crowds lined Liverpool Road outside the Church of the Holy Cross as Laura's coffin was carried from her home a mile away.

The cortege that followed bore hundreds of floral tributes to the little girl whose courage touched lives across the world. In the church there was a spray of red roses from the Saudi Arabian Embassy in London on behalf of King Fahd, who gave £150,000 to Laura's first appeal and paid for her second operation at the Pittsburgh Children's Hospital in Pennsylvania.



MARC ASPLAND

Laura's mother Fran outside the family home in Eccles as the horse-drawn hearse is prepared for its journey

Father Drainey said: "Laura did much in a short time. She stirred emotions in hearts that had been empty for years. She brought tears to the most cynical, joy and zest for life to those who had stopped living. She had many wonderful gifts for such a little girl, and all because in the first place she herself was a gift."

His words were relayed to the hundreds of people standing in the bright sunshine outside the church. They heard the priest defend the decision to carry out two multiple transplants in the effort to save Laura's life.

"There are those with that clever gift of hindsight who would say, 'What a waste of time, Laura died anyway'. Well, we all die. It is part and parcel of our existence. But in such a short time Laura did so much. I am sure that many things have been learnt as a result of Laura's brave fight."

Tributes to the little girl came from those who had organised the appeal fund to pay for her operations. One woman spoke of the love and concern for Laura that had spread far beyond Manchester. "We have united in our giving from the poorest to the richest across barriers of race and religion. May we never forget."

The Rev Ruth Crofton said there had been dark days during the appeal when it seemed the goal would not be reached. But those small hurdles were nothing to the mountains that Laura had cheerfully climbed. "Give her an audience and she would perform. She was a star, a special child. She never pulled her punches, was never afraid to speak her mind. Our loss is heaven's gain."

They sang Laura's favourite carol, "Away In A Manger", with other simple hymns, "I Watch The Sun Rise" and "Colours Of Day", led by the local St Patrick's High School choir. Then the voice of Laura herself cheerfully singing "Show Me The Way To Go Home" was played in the church, bringing tears to the many who recalled her courage.



KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

After two rounds of the giant knockout tournament at Tilburg in Holland, illustrious names who have so far been eliminated include Vassily Smyslov, Viktor Korchnoi, Boris Gelfand and Valery Salov.

Those still in the hunt for the £40,000 prize number Fide champion Anatoly Karpov, Gata Kamsky, Jan Timman and Michael Adams, who eliminated Tony Miles. The other two British grandmasters, Julian Hodgson and Jon Speelman, have been knocked out by Artur Yusupov and Rafael Vaganian respectively.

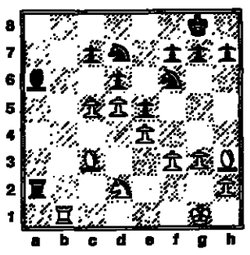
The best game of the second round was Karpov's subtle win against Romanishin. The attack, initiated with Karpov's 22nd move, was both elegant and forceful. If 27 ... Nxc5 then 28 Rb8+ wins, while 28 ... exf4 then 29 e5 Nxd5 30 Bxd7 Nxc3 31 Rb8+ wins.

White: Anatoly Karpov

Black: Oleg Romanishin
Tilburg Knockout, round 2

Queen's Indian Defence

1	d4	Nf6
2	c4	e6
3	Nf3	b6
4	g3	Ba6
5	b3	Bb7
6	Bg2	Bb4+
7	Bd2	a5
8	0-0	0-0
9	Qc2	d6
10	Nc3	Nbd7
11	Rad1	Re8
12	Rfe1	Bxc3
13	Bxc3	Be4
14	Qc1	a4
15	Bh3	axb3
16	axb3	Ra2
17	Rd2	Qa8
18	Rxa2	Qxa2
19	Nd2	b5
20	f3	Bc6
21	e4	bxc4
22	bxc4	e5
23	Qa1	Ra8
24	Qxa2	Rxa2
25	d5	Bb7
26	Rb1	Ba6
27	c5	



27	... dxc5	
28	f4	h5
29	fxe5	Ng4
30	Bxg4	hxg4
31	Ra1	Rc2
32	Rxa6	Rxc3
33	Ra8+	Kh7
34	e6	fxe6
35	dxe6	Nf6
36	e7	Rc1+
37	Kf2	Rc2
38	Ke1	Black resigns

Readers are invited to submit their own games for possible publication in this column. Games should be sent to me c/o Keene on Chess, The Times, 1 Pennington St, London E1 9XN.

Winning Move, page 48

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Judge fears judicial prejudice will cause US-style race strife

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

A HIGH Court judge gave a warning last night that the scales are tipped against black defendants at every stage of the criminal justice system, threatening social unrest and alienation.

Mr Justice Brooke, chairman of the Law Commission, said: "Serious risks to justice are being created as a result of ignorance of ethnic minority culture and customs."

Sentencing studies had shown black and white offenders were treated differently and that black offenders had a greater chance of being sentenced to custody.

"I have not the slightest doubt that there is something going on, at each stage of the criminal justice process, that tips the scales on some occasions against black people." If that happened to people at different stages, "the effect will be compounded and will lead to the alienation which we so often see on our television screens in major cities of the United States today".

Mr Justice Brooke, who chairs the committee set up in 1991 to advise on the training of judges in racial awareness, was giving the annual Kapila Fellowship lecture for the Council of Legal Education and the Bar Council.

He was speaking four days after a £1 million programme for training every judge in England and Wales in racial awareness was given the go-ahead by the Lord Chancellor and the Lord Chief Justice.

Ignorance of ethnic minority culture and customs risked creating offence over matters as personal names, customs on taking of oaths and family traditions, Mr Justice Brooke said.

There was also the risk of injustice through ignorance about body language and failures of communication, and the risk of unfair discrimination "where the potential for unproductive confrontation is at its greatest".

He cited cases where people of a different cultural background from those on the bench had been "disadvantaged or hurt" by their handling in court. "In each case, serious mistakes were made by well-intentioned, well-educated people in good faith, in ignorance that what they were doing was wrong."

Mr Justice Brooke said that in his experience of seven years' involvement in race relations, black people saw the criminal justice system as unfair and biased against them. Now that society was multi-cultural it was important to be alert to the danger.

Judges and magistrates will be advised in a paper going out next month on how to address defendants and to use their names correctly. Most black and Asian people disliked being called "coloured", Mr Justice Brooke said.

"It is a question of showing respect to the way in which people like to hear themselves described."

Guidance on oath-taking had already been issued and he hoped that soon in no court would Muslim women suffer the embarrassment of explaining that they could not take an oath on the Koran because they were having a period.



The British neo-Nazi tribute to Hess in a Scottish field yesterday, before protesters took a sledgehammer to it

Hammer blow puts paid to Nazi shrine

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

A MEMORIAL to Rudolf Hess was destroyed by protesters yesterday after news leaked out that it had been erected by British neo-Nazis on a farm belonging to the brother of a Conservative councillor.

The monument marked where Hess parachuted in 1941, on what was then the Duke of Hamilton's land, in an apparent effort to end the second world war.

The memorial is believed to have been visited in the past month by Hess's son Wolf, who was on a business trip to Glasgow. Yesterday anti-Nazi protesters daubed the monument with yellow paint and stickers before taking a sledgehammer to it.

The memorial, which briefly became a shrine for neo-Nazi groups, was erected secretly in a field on Floors Farm near Eaglesham, Strathclyde. The farm belongs to Craig Baird whose brother Basil is vice-chairman of the Conservative-controlled Eastwood District Council.

Basil Baird said yesterday that his brother had been approached by a Yorkshireman who did not give his name or address. The man had either bought or rented the field in which Hess's plane came down and the monument was erected.

The inscription on the marble and slate memorial read: "This stone marks the spot where brave, heroic Rudolf Hess landed by parachute on the night of 10th May 1941 seeking to end the war between Britain and Germany."

News of the memorial came to light in a German neo-Nazi newspaper which said "friends" in Britain had erected the monument. Local people say it had been there for six months and attracted many foreign visitors, including Germans.



Hess: unsuccessful mission to end war

Allan Stewart, the industry minister at the Scottish Office and Conservative MP for Eastwood, in whose constituency the monument stood, said: "I have been in touch with Eastwood District Council, who have confirmed that planning permission was neither sought nor given." The people of Eastwood would have found the memorial "very offensive".

Michael Henry, the chief executive of Eastwood District Council, said he first heard about the memorial yesterday. Craig Baird had been issued with a letter asking him to remove it. Mr Henry said: "I am appalled by the whole thing."

Harry Diamond, a leading member of the Jewish community in Glasgow, said that "a memorial to a man who was second-in-command to the world's most obscene regime" could arouse only "disgust and repugnance". It was also an appalling insult to every British soldier who served in the war.

After Hess's capture he spent the rest of his life in prison, dying at Spandau jail, Berlin, six years ago.

Unhurried Beaujolais cuts price and punch

BY A STAFF REPORTER

DESPITE all efforts to ridicule it, the British wine-lovers' annual foretaste of Christmas — Beaujolais Nouveau — reached the supermarkets in huge volumes yesterday.

Although French growers admit the year has been troublesome, due to heavy rains and storms, they confidently expect Britons to drink over three million bottles of their 1993 vintage. Some supermarket chains have priced their bottles well below last year's levels, sacrificing margins to remain competitive.

Significantly, though, the French authorities reduced the alcoholic strength required in the wine this year by half a percentage point, "in response to consumer concerns". The British wine trade also ended the "Beaujolais race" to Britain, by establishing bonded depots here from which pre-delivered wine could be distributed in a more commercially efficient mannner.

Jane MacQuitty, *The Times* wine correspondent, yesterday tasted all 15 of the 1993 Beaujolais Nouveau imported in largest quantity this year. She concluded: "1993 is not a great year for Beaujolais Nouveau, but a rather indifferent one. Many of the wines are very pale in colour, quite watery and acidic."

The best wine "by a long chalk", she says, is Marks & Spencer's St Michael Beaujolais Nouveau, made by Roland Micouin at the Cellier des Samsons co-operative, at £3.99. She describes it as "a vibrant, juicy raspberry-scented *nouveau* completely in a class of its own this year".

The runner-up was a Beaujolais Nouveau by Vincent Chanron, stocked by Davison's stores in and around London at £3.99, which showed "lots of ripe plum and cherry fruit".

Third place went to Thresher's Beaujolais Nouveau from Jean-Paul Bartier, also at £3.99, but fourth place went to the cheapest wine, Safeway's Beaujolais Nouveau supplied by Mommessin, at £2.89.

WEEKEND SHOPPING

BY TIM REID

THE recent storms have done little to damage the quality or quantity of vegetables available. A bumper crop of English Brussels sprouts has ensured their supply until Christmas and they are the best buy this week at 19-29p a lb.

Other good buys include carrots at 15-25p a lb, parsnips at 25-45p a lb and cauliflower at 30-60p. Leeks and cabbage also look good.

Satsumas, available for as little as 4p each, should fill the fruit bowl, and apples, oranges, pears and kiwifruit are reasonably priced.

British beef represents excellent value with 70p a lb lopped off most sirloin steak. Other bargains include roast ham, shoulder pork and back bacon.

White fish are at their best. Supplies and prices are good, with cod and haddock fillets at £2.90 and £3.20 a lb. Coley and whiting are down in price again. Best buy is skate at £2.80 a lb.

Advertised best buys:

Tesco: Skinless chicken breast fillets, £2.99 a lb; red delicious apples, 29p a lb; large prawns, £1.69 a lb.

Sainsbury: Fresh whole salmon, £2.18 a lb; granny smiths, 25p a lb; beef topside, £2.95 a lb.

Gateway: potatoes, £1.19 per 5kg; bananas 39p a lb; legs of lamb, £1.59 a lb.

Asda: Large yellow melon, 99p; Red Leicester cheese, £1.59 a lb; black-seeded grapes, 39p a lb.

Iceland: Mince, £2.99 a lb; broccoli mix, 99p for 2lb; julienne carrots, 99p for 4lb; beefburgers, £1.99 for 12.

Safeway: Unsmoked half gammon joint, 89p a lb; thick pork sausages, 84p a lb; shoulder of lamb, 98p a lb; mushrooms, 98p a lb.

Harrods: Mixed nuts, £7.95 a kilo; red haddock, £1.80 a lb; salami, £2.70 a ¼ lb.

Co-op: Mincemeat, 73p for 411g; shepherds pie, 99p; 450g blackcurrant cheesecake, £1.39.

Marks and Spencer: 6 salmon fillets, £9.99; chocolate layered gateaux, £1.99.

Waitrose: Pork shoulder roast, £1.19; honeydew melon, £1.05 each; wholemeal bread, 800g, 79p.

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BARCLAYS
MEANS BUSINESS

Government gets tough in attempt to regain initiative on law and order

Young offenders to be locked up in crime crackdown

By Richard Ford
Home Correspondent

LAW AND ORDER

PROPOSALS to tackle persistent offending by juveniles will form the key part of a criminal justice bill designed to help the government regain the initiative on law and order.

The bill will introduce the secure training order, a new punishment to be given to juveniles aged 12-14 who have committed at least three separate offences. The order will allow youngsters to be sent to one of five secure training units, holding up to 40 people, for a maximum of two years.

In a surprise move, ministers also aim to curb football touts by making it an offence to sell tickets illegally outside grounds on the day of matches, a measure promised three years ago.

The proposal by Lord Justice Taylor, now the Lord Chief Justice, in his report on the Hillsborough football disaster, will allow police to arrest anyone selling a ticket without authority at or near a ground. The penalty will be a maximum fine of £5,000.

The bill, which includes increased penalties for possessing indecent pictures of children and greater power of arrest over those involved in child pornography, is a central element in John Major's efforts to ensure that "traditional" values of personal and moral responsibility are reflected in government policies.

It is also intended to reassure Conservative backbenchers worried that Tony Blair, Labour's home affairs spokesman, has undermined the Tory party's traditional image of being sound on law and order and to reassure the public as recorded crime reaches a record 5.7 million. Last night the National Association of Probation Officers said the bill was a miscellany of counter-productive measures and that child jails and tougher penalties would have no impact on crime rates.

Ministers have tried to allay fears that the new units will do little more than reinforce criminal behaviour by insisting there will be a strong emphasis on education and training. None of the units is likely to be in use before 1996.

Defendants' right to silence will be modified, allowing courts to draw an inference from a suspect's refusal to answer questions in a police station or during the trial. The government has decided to act after pressure from judges and police officers who complained that the balance of the criminal justice system had moved too far in favour of defendants.

The bill will allow non-intimate DNA samples to be taken without a suspect's consent.

Police and the Crown Prosecution Service will be allowed to consult victims of crime about whether a suspect should be given bail. Bail is to be abolished for those charged with serious offences such as rape or murder who have a previous conviction for the same crime.

For the first time, police will be allowed to attach conditions to police bail as part of attempts to curb the estimated one in ten people who commit further offences while on bail.

Other measures in the bill will include a new offence of disrupting a country sport. It will carry a penalty of three months in prison or a £2,500 fine and is intended to limit the activities of demonstrators who obstruct traditional country pursuits such as hunting, horse-race meetings and fishing.

A quick system for evicting squatters from shops and houses, with squatters facing a maximum of six months' jail and/or a fine of up to £5,000, is to be introduced. Police will be given greater powers, including five-mile exclusion zones, to deal with New Age travellers and illegal "raves".

Leading article, page 21

MICHAEL POWELL



The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh passing through a colourful Royal Gallery on the way to the chamber of the Lords yesterday

Intelligence agencies face greater scrutiny

By Michael Evans
Defence Correspondent

SECURITY SERVICES

THE secret intelligence service, MI6, and the government's electronic eavesdropping centre, GCHQ, are to be placed on a statutory footing in the Intelligence Services Bill, the Queen's Speech confirmed yesterday.

The two agencies will join MI5, the security service that entered the statute book in 1989. All three will also be subject to parliamentary oversight for the first time, as part of John Major's drive for more open government.

A special committee to oversee them is expected to consist of selected representatives from the Commons and the House of Lords. They are not expected to be restricted to privy counsellors. The chairman of the committee will be appointed by the prime minister.

The MPs will be given access to classified documents relating to the three agencies' work and will be entitled to ask questions. They will not be given operational details.

The three heads of the services, Stella Rimington of MI5, Sir Colin McColl of MI6, and Sir John Adye of GCHQ, all support the move. The existence of MI6 and the name of its chief were acknowledged for the first time only last year.

MI6 is due to move into new headquarters in London's Vauxhall Cross — already nicknamed Ceausescu Towers — next April.

MI6 employs about 2,000 staff and has an annual budget of £150 million. This is similar to MI5, which is also moving next year to Thames House, once used by the energy department.

The existence of GCHQ, which is based in Cheltenham and provides signals intelligence by eavesdropping on a variety of communications, has been acknowledged officially since 1982. GCHQ employs about 7,000 staff.

The new bill will set out the functions of MI6 and GCHQ and outline how the services will be made more accountable.

Howard pushes for reform

By Stewart Tendler
Crime Correspondent

POLICE

THE police face the most widespread changes seen by forces in more than 30 years under proposals in the police and magistrates bill announced yesterday. Pay, organisation and community involvement in local policing all face reform.

If the bill goes through intact there could eventually be fewer but larger forces run by slimmer police authorities. They would appoint chief constables holding fixed-term contracts and working towards annual objectives. In future, a police chief could decide whether to recruit more officers or spend his money on better technology and equipment without being restrained by Whitehall red tape.

The bill brings together proposals from a white paper earlier this year, the government's decisions on the Sheehy report and plans to reform police discipline regulations. Although the government has watered down key proposals of the Sheehy report, ministers are likely to face fierce lobbying and opposition against other reforms, especially over discipline changes and streamlining police authorities.

Local government representatives have already accused the government of trying to overthrow the traditional balance of police control by the Home Office, police authorities drawn from local government, and chief constables. The government plans to reduce police authorities to 16 members, including five government nominees. The chairman would be chosen by the home secretary and be paid.



Howard: big shake-up of police forces

According to ministers, many of the ingredients of the bill will provide a more flexible police response to crime. Forces will have to publish details of their performance, such as responses to calls and clear-ups of offences. Plans will have to be drafted to meet meet local community fears and priorities.

Central control on manpower levels and of recruiting and capital expenditure will be abolished. Chief constables should gain greater management control. The police chain of command will be cut, as recommended by the Sheehy report, and the ranks of deputy chief constable, chief superintendent and chief inspector would go. The cuts in middle management could fund the recruiting of more officers on the streets.

The bill will propose other measures from the Sheehy report and plans for speeding the handling of officers who are lazy or poor at their jobs. The current ponderous and heavily legalistic system of dealing with discipline will also be overhauled.

Pits sell-off set for end of next year

By Ross Tieman
Industrial Correspondent

THE transfer of British Coal pits back into the private sector now seems likely to begin before the end of next year after the government last night pledged to introduce a coal privatisation bill in the next session of Parliament.

Pits and open-cast mines will be offered in packages covering the North East, Midlands, Yorkshire, Welsh and

COAL

Scottish coalfields. Private sector groups and British Coal employee consortia will soon be able to begin talks about their proposals.

The bill will give ministers powers to complete the sale and provide a new framework for a totally private sector coal industry. A Coal Authority will be formed to licence mining operations. The bill will also provide for liabilities in respect of former employees and pension rights.

OTHER BILLS

Business red tape attacked

A bill to give ministers wide-ranging powers to sweep away red tape hampering the efficiency of small business will be introduced in early January. Eight task forces of businessmen and women set up earlier this year at the instigation of the industry department have already produced a list of 3,500 regulations which they wish to see reviewed.

The project was immediately condemned by union leaders anxious that there should be no weakening of protection for workers. However, there was unqualified support from employers' organisations.

The bill is likely to encounter stiff opposition in the Lords because it grants sweeping powers to ministers to repeal regulation through secondary legislation — so-called Henry VIII clauses.

Making a mark

The trademark bill will bring Britain's regulations closer in line with those of the EC and will implement international agreements. The bill will make it easier for firms to register shapes and distinctive words as trademarks and will give wider protection to goods and services similar to those covered by trademarks.

Council reform

The reform of local government in Scotland and Wales will be among the most controversial legislation this session. The Scottish reforms, outlined in a white paper entitled *Shaping the Future*, have already attracted widespread criticism north of the border with many existing local authorities pledged to oppose them.

Clean-up

The first steps towards setting up of the long-promised environment protection agencies to combat pollution were announced yesterday. A paving bill is to be introduced to the Commons which will enable the government to authorise expenditure on laying the foundations of two such bodies, one for England and Wales and one for Scotland.

Queen shifts spotlight on to international security and peacekeeping

THE following is a partial text of the Queen's Speech.

MY government attach the highest importance to national security. They will maintain full support for the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation. They will work to secure Nato's adaptation to the changing security environment, and to continue developing the operational role of the Western European Union. My government will work for full implementation of the Conventional Armed Forces in Europe treaty, and for the entry into force of the Open Skies treaty. Britain's minimum independent nuclear deterrent will be maintained.

My government will work for the effective implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention, to prevent proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, to promote the indefinite and unconditional extension of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation treaty and to encourage international responsibility in conventional arms transfers. They will take part constructively in negotiations on a verifiable and comprehensive nuclear test ban. They will continue to help with the safe and secure transport of nuclear weapons for dismantling in the former Soviet Union.

Now that the Treaty of Maastricht has entered into force my government will attach particular importance to implementing the new common foreign and security policy and intergovernmental co-operation in ... justice and home affairs. They will work to ensure that the principle of subsidiarity is applied to European Community legislation. My government will promote financial and budgetary discipline in the Community. They will work within the Community for a successful conclusion to the Uruguay round of trade negotiations.

My government will work for a rapid conclusion of accession agreements with Austria, Finland, Norway and Sweden, and will continue to put forward the case for European countries which are ready and wish to join the European Community. My government will strive for a peaceful settlement in the former Yugoslavia. They will provide help for political and economic reform in the states of the former Soviet Union, and their integration into the international community.

My government will play a constructive role in strengthening the United Nations' capacity to undertake peacekeeping and preventive action. They will work for full Iraqi compliance with security council resolutions.

My government welcome the recent breakthrough in the Middle East peace process. They will continue to support efforts to bring lasting peace to the region. My government will work for the long-term stability and prosperity of Hong Kong and to co-operate with China to implement the Sino-British Joint Declaration in the best interests of the Hong Kong people. My government will play an active part in the Commonwealth. They will support construction of a democratic society in South Africa.

STATE VISITS IN 1994

Spring: Tour of Caribbean countries.
May: Visit to France to inaugurate the Channel tunnel.
June: Ceremonies to mark the 50th anniversary of the Normandy landings in France.
August: Commonwealth Games in Canada.

My government will maintain a substantial aid programme to promote sustainable development and good government.

My government will introduce legislation to place the Secret Intelligence Service and Government Communications Headquarters on a statutory basis; and to make further provisions for the oversight and accountability of them and the security service. In Northern Ireland my government will continue their efforts to defeat terrorism through impartial and resolute enforcement of the law, to uphold the democratic wishes of its people and seek political progress by broadly based agreement, to strengthen economic progress and to create equality of opportunity for all sections of the community. They will maintain positive relations with the Republic of Ireland. My government will maintain their fight against terrorism, throughout the United Kingdom and elsewhere ... My government will continue with firm financial policies designed to support continuing economic growth and rising employment, based on permanently low inflation. My government will bring together tax and expenditure decisions in a unified Budget. Fiscal policy will be set to bring the budget deficit back towards balance over the medium term. My government will reduce the share of national income taken by the public sector. They will continue to promote enterprise and improve the supply performance of the economy.

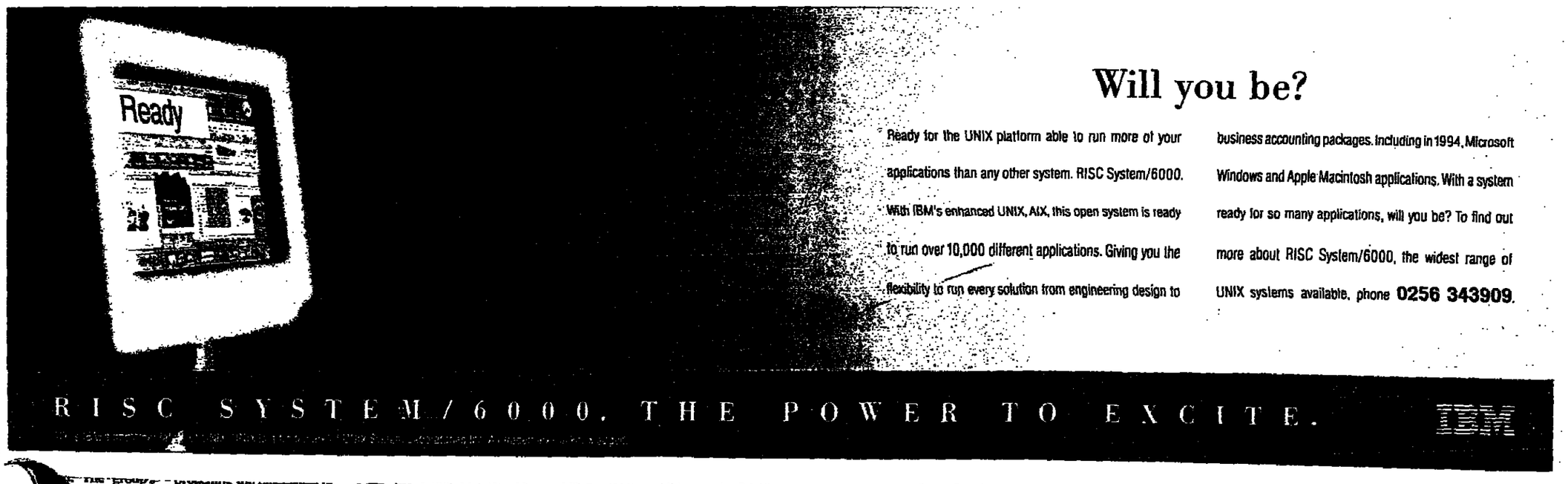
The citizen's charter will remain central to [the] programme for improving public services. Legislation will be introduced to give force to the changes in the European Community's system of own resources following the agreement at the Edinburgh European Council. Legislation will be introduced to facilitate deregulation and to remove obstacles to contracting out by central and local government.

My government will continue to give priority to law and order. Legislation will be introduced to allow the courts to deal more effectively with young offenders and to make improvements in the criminal law. A bill will be introduced to improve the organisation and management of the police so that they are better able to combat crime, and to strengthen the administration of magistrates' courts.

My government will continue to develop its policies on social security so that help is concentrated on those most in need and expenditure is kept within affordable limits. Legislation will be introduced to raise the National Insurance contributions paid by employees. Legislation will be introduced to privatise British Coal.

My government will bring forward legislation to reform local government in Scotland and Wales.

My government will introduce legislation to establish new arrangements for funding teacher training in England and Wales and to reform student unions. My government will bring forward a bill to reform the law on Sunday trading in England and Wales. Bills will be introduced to take forward environment agency planning, and to reform the law on trademarks.



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Back-to-basics policy must go back to drawing board, says Labour leader

Major promises urgent action to protect the public

BY ALICE THOMSON AND ROBERT MORGAN

TACKLING crime is now the top priority, John Major said yesterday. He flagged the massive criminal justice bill as the centrepoint of the government's legislative programme for the coming year.

Speaking in the debate on the Queen's Speech, the prime minister said that the government's first duty was to protect the public. "Crime is not just a problem for the well-to-do. It often hits hardest the people who have the least," he said.

In his strongest message yet on law and order, he promised to crack down on juvenile crime and on people re-offending while on bail, to build new prisons and to give the police greater flexibility to fight crime.

"This bill will deter criminals by making sure that, once caught, they will be prosecuted and if convicted, effectively punished," the prime minister said. And he added: "The whole House shares a deep concern about the level of crime. I hope it will be able to unite behind our proposals to tackle it"

Calling the Queen's Speech "a realistic programme which addresss practical problems in practical ways", he said the 13 new measures would provide the foundation for a successful, tolerant, responsible society.

He also emphasised the importance of his "back to basics"initiative, telling MPs that basic social values meant self-disipline, respect for the law, concerns for others and individual responsibility.

However, John Smith, the Labour leader, opening the debateon the Queen's Speech for thefirst time as leader of the Opposition, mocked the prime minister's "back-to-basics" plicies, branding them as an 'appalling admission of failure.

He said that commentators, bewildered members of the cabinet, and millions of electors had been trying to work out "what does he mean?". If it was necessary now to go back to basics "what on earth has been happening over 14 years of Conservative government?"

Mr Smith supported recent moves to seek peace in Northern Ireland and added: "The government must grasp this opportunity and work with the Irish government and the constitutional parties in the province to create conditions for peace." He continued: "We believe also that the elected

DEBATE

representatives of Northern Ireland have an obligation to respond to calls from all sections of the community to enter into discussions to agree a peaceful settlement.

"The British government should call all the parties back to the negotiating table."

He said that compromise and concessions would be required from both sides and all parties must not be "afraid to take risks for peace". Acknowledging Mr Smith's words on Northern Ireland, the prime minister heralded peace in Northern Ireland as his other top priority in the forthcoming session.

Mr Major assured the Labour leader that no political party or organisation would be allowed to veto progress towards peace.

Repeating his offer that Sinn Fein could enter the political arena if the IRA ended violence for good, he said: "There may be an opportunity for progress and we must explore it. And if we do not succeed on this occasion we must go back and keep exploring again and again." He also reiterated the government's offer to table its own proposals if that would help.

But he said that he would not be looking for "peace at any price" in his search for a solution in Northern Ireland. "A peace which involved conceding to terrorism or negotiation under its shadow would not be acceptable to the government or the people of Northern Ireland," Mr Major said.

He also assured MPs that there would be no rewards for terrorists and offered a "cast-iron guarantee" to Unionists that there could be no change to the status of Northern Ireland without the freely expressed consent of its people.

Mr Smith condemned the Queen's Speech as irrelevant to the needs and aspirations of the people. It was so far removed from them that "instead of going back to basics, it should be going back to the drawing board".

Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, supported the stance the prime minister has taken on Northern Ireland, but dismissed the Queen's Speech as portraying a "government bankrupt of ideas".



The EC, personified by Jacques Delors, features strongly in the Queen's Speech

Maastricht rebels upset by Brussels cash rise

BY JONATHAN PRYNN
POLITICAL REPORTER

TORY Euro-sceptic MPs were yesterday considering their stance towards proposed legislation to increase the budget of the European Community.

While the measure, announced in the Queen's Speech, is not regarded as a matter of principle, the fact that it has come soon after the

EUROPE

Maastricht struggle has irritated the leading rebels. But some have decided not to vote against the government on the issue, preferring to wait for the 1996 EC summit on the future structure of the Community.

The agreement at last year's Edinburgh summit allowed for resources available to the Community to rise steadily from 1.2 per cent of Community GNP to 1.27 per cent by 1999, when the budget will rise to £64 billion.

The bill also restructures the formula for calculating the contributions of member states to take more account of member countries' GNP. The change is expected to work to the advantage of Britain, the Community's second biggest net contributor.

New agency to fund teacher training

BY JOHN O'LEARY
EDUCATION EDITOR

NEW measures to restructure teacher training and curb students' unions will ensure that there is no slackening in the pace of education reform.

The latest education bill is expected to start its progress through Parliament in the House of Lords before the end of the year. Both elements will face stern resistance.

The teacher training reforms will create a new agency to direct funding towards schools, rather than universities and colleges. Other contentious measures, such as

EDUCATION

the creation of a "mums' army" of non-graduate teachers in infants' schools will be addressed in a separate circular this month. The proposed changes to the way primary teachers are trained do not require legislation.

New controls on students' unions are intended to ensure that public funds, channelled through universities and colleges, cannot be used for political campaigns. Institutions will be required to draw up codes of practice to govern the conduct of their unions.

Benefit cut outcry expected

BY JILL SHERMAN
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

CABINET ministers are bracing themselves for a public outcry over measures to prevent thousands of people claiming invalidity benefit.

Peter Lilley, the social security secretary is briefing MPs about the expected impact of the invalidity benefit bill, which is designed to shave more than £1.3 billion off the social security budget over five years. The bill was not mentioned in the Queen's Speech because it is tied in with the budget.

The new rules, designed to exclude 60,000 people from benefit, have won cabinet approval and will be announced after November 30.

SOCIAL SECURITY

The centre piece of the legislation is an "objective" medical assessment which GPs will have to carry out for existing and new claimants. Applicants who can walk a certain distance, for example, will be unable to claim invalidity benefit even if they have significant disabilities.

The bill is also expected to lengthen the qualifying period before people can claim invalidity benefit and offer less generous payments for new applicants.

Although the proposals have been leaked, Mr Lilley is expecting protests from the medical profession, disability groups and some Tory backbenchers.

Late redraft narrows the options

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

OFFICIALS were hurriedly redrafting the Sunday trading bill less than 48 hours before the Queen's Speech.

The bill, published today, is the first legislation to be unveiled in the new session. It was amended at the eleventh hour when two pressure groups merged their campaigns against general Sunday opening. Their late move will allow MPs to choose from

SUNDAY TRADING

three options, rather than the four planned, on reform of the discredited 1950 Shops Act.

In another late change, the government is likely to grant all present and future shop workers the right to refuse Sunday work, a move that will be critical in attracting Labour support.

The three options are:

☐ Unlimited opening

☐ Small shops to have unlimited opening; larger shops limited to six hours' trading

☐ Unlimited opening only on the four Sundays before Christmas. Garden centres, DIY stores, motor supply shops and many small shops to trade all Sundays.

MPs will have a free vote.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Continuation of debate on the Queen's speech (foreign affairs and defence).

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Model 37482. Was £349.99. Was £169.99.
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SALE PRICE £159.99 SAVE £40

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NHS whistle-blowers put their careers on the line

By Jeremy Laurance and Roger Dobson

A report confirms that doctors and nurses concerned about failings in the health service are under pressure to keep quiet

DOCTORS and nurses who speak out publicly about poor standards of care in the National Health Service are frequently ostracised by their colleagues, and almost always ruin their careers, according to the first detailed investigation into "whistle-blowing".

The findings suggest that NHS staff who complain may have as much to fear from their colleagues, who dislike people rocking the boat, as from management. The investigation found that half the 31 professionals who made allegations of fraud, malpractice, and inadequate care or abuse of patients, had either lost their jobs or been put under pressure to resign.

Details of the investigation came as Sir Duncan Nichol, chief executive of the NHS, wrote to managers to clarify government guidance on whistle-blowing. His letter follows concern among MPs about what they saw as a threat to those who complained. The guidance was issued last year in response to concern that NHS staff were being "gagged" by confidentiality clauses written into health authority contracts.

Announcing the move, Virginia Bottomley, the health secretary, said it was important that staff were able to express genuine concerns. "I absolutely understand what it feels like to be in an organisation where pressure is put on you to remain silent," she said.

Geoffrey Hunt, director of the European Centre for Professional Ethics, at the University of East London, who carried out the investigation with Barbara Shailer, of Middlesex University, said: "We found that some of the whistleblowers were sent to Coventry, while others were put in work rotas they did not want, or made to work unsocial hours. All had suffered in one way or another.

"About half of those we sent questionnaires had gone public on the issue they wanted to put right. Others had tried to solve it within the system. There was a universal dissatisfaction with the attitude of management and trade unions. The dominant pressure was to shut up and keep quiet."

The probe comes in the wake of similar research in Australia which examined 35 individuals, 23 of whom were either dismissed or pressured into resigning. A further four were made redundant and three transferred.

Jean Lennane, president of the New South Wales-based Whistle Blowers Pressure Group that carried out the research, said: "Thirty-four of the 35 people we looked at had been victimised as a result of exposing misconduct. Organisations can use their staff to wear the lone whistle blower down.

"Their aim seems to be to isolate whistle blowers as incompetent, disloyal, troublesome, mentally unbalanced, or force them to leave."

Guidance on whistle blowers issued by the NHS says that employees may wish to consult their MP or talk to the media, but that such action is unjustified except as a last resort and could result in disciplinary proceedings. This caused a protest from MPs who said it was a threat to the democratic rights of NHS staff.

In his letter, Sir Duncan says the aim of the original guidance was to present options to staff. The possibility of disciplinary action applied only to unjustified comments being made to the media and not to MPs.

Stage set for arts sponsorship tragedy

By Alison Roberts, Arts Reporter

BUSINESS sponsorship of the arts fell by 13.5 per cent in 1992-3. The decrease — from £65 million in 1991-2 to £58 million — comes as a further blow to arts funding levels, and indicates several shifts in sponsorship activity.

The Association for Business Sponsorship of the Arts (Absa) said that the figures were slightly distorted by the absence of two key sponsorship campaigns which had taken place the previous year: the Japan Festival raised £10 million and the Glyndebourne Opera appeal was more active in seeking business support. However, the drop had been absorbed primarily by large-scale arts companies whose sponsorship income had suffered volatile fluctuations.

Colin Tweedy, director-general of Absa, warned that business sponsorship could "go into freefall" if signs of economic recovery waned. Arts organisations had to learn how to deal with businesses demanding more exposure for less money and national companies must be prepared to seek a wider variety of sponsors.

Another new trend — towards brand, as opposed to corporate sponsorship — signals the increase in pure advertising through business support of the arts. "Brand sponsorship is a whole new ball game and opens up whole new budgets," Mr Tweedy said.

Although some arts organisations may find the idea distasteful, sponsorship as advertising will become increasingly important as central government support is cut next year.

Other new developments include a large increase in sponsorship in the North with a 68 per cent increase — from £3.4 million to £5.9 million — following the establishment of an Absa North office in Halifax, West Yorkshire.

Boxing MC lands blow for women

By A Staff Reporter

BRITAIN'S first female boxing MC agreed to a £8,500 settlement yesterday after claiming she was dismissed unfairly and sexually discriminated against by Mickey Duff, a promoter. Lisa Budd, 31, of Brentford, west London, who comes from a "boxing family", told a London tribunal that she had joined Mr Duff's Anglo-American Sporting Club as a secretary. She later went on to fulfil an ambition to be a MC, making her first appearance for a rival promoter, Harry Holland, at Watford town hall on September 17 last year.



Budd: hopes to manage boxers

Miss Budd claimed that the next day Mr Duff told her she would have to choose between her secretarial job and the ring, although he had given permission for her to MC the fight. She said she had been effectively dismissed.

The case was settled without a formal announcement from the tribunal after lengthy private discussions. The company agreed to pay Miss Budd £8,500 within one week. Mr Duff was not present at the hearing.

"I am pleased it's all over, it's been a long time," Miss Budd, who now works as a secretary for London Transport, said. She intends to pursue her MC career and hopes to move into management.



JAMES MORGAN

It's too early to say if it's a girl, but this rare Lake Alaotra gentle lemur from Madagascar, born at the Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust in August, is the first bred in captivity. The zoo has eight of the ten in captivity and hopes to breed more

All paths 'back on map by 2000'

By Michael Hornsby, Countryside Correspondent

THOUSANDS of miles of public footpaths and bridleways in England are unusable and many county councils have not finished mapping them more than 40 years after they were ordered to. The Countryside Commission, which yesterday launched an initiative to ensure that all public rights of way are legally defined and properly maintained and signposted by 2000, wants highway authorities to prepare a programme for opening all public paths and completing their mapping. They would also be asked to submit an annual report.

A 1988 survey found that of the 120,000 miles of public rights of way in England, more than 20,000 were found to be blocked. Despite a doubling of local authority expenditure on rights of way — from £12 million to £23 million between 1987 and 1991 — there was still no clear information on whether condition had improved.

Roy Hickey, the commission's access officer, said: "We hope to have completed a report on the physical state of footpaths by next summer. There is already evidence that paths are better signposted and there is a reasonable chance of getting all paths opened by 2000." There is less chance that maps will be completed on target.

NEWS IN BRIEF

2 held over £1m theft

Two men were arrested yesterday after £1.06 million in foreign currency was stolen from Heathrow airport. Police raided homes in Uxbridge and Twickenham, west London, and Farnborough, Hampshire. A security blunder meant telex details asking for the cash to be fetched by security vans went to the wrong office and was ignored.

The currency, bound for the Republican National Bank of New York in the City of London, was stolen from a BA aircraft on November 4. It was not known whether any money had been recovered.

Widow jailed

A widowed grandmother is to spend Christmas in jail for not paying her poll tax. Durham magistrates sent Ivy Ellis, 67, to prison for 90 days even though she took £100 to court to meet part of the outstanding £390 bill.

Inmate hanged

Michael Robert Taylor, 22, was found hanged in his cell in Exeter prison, shortly after inmates set up a scheme to help vulnerable prisoners. Three other inmates have taken their lives in the prison in the past six months.

Bomb drop

Two council workers found an unexploded bomb in a layby near Mere, Wiltshire. They loaded it on their lorry and drove 20 miles to their depot in Salisbury. The depot was evacuated but bomb disposal experts found the device was a dud.

Smoke free

Police in West Yorkshire are to ban smoking in police stations and patrol cars. A final decision has yet to be made on whether people being detained or questioned will be allowed to smoke.

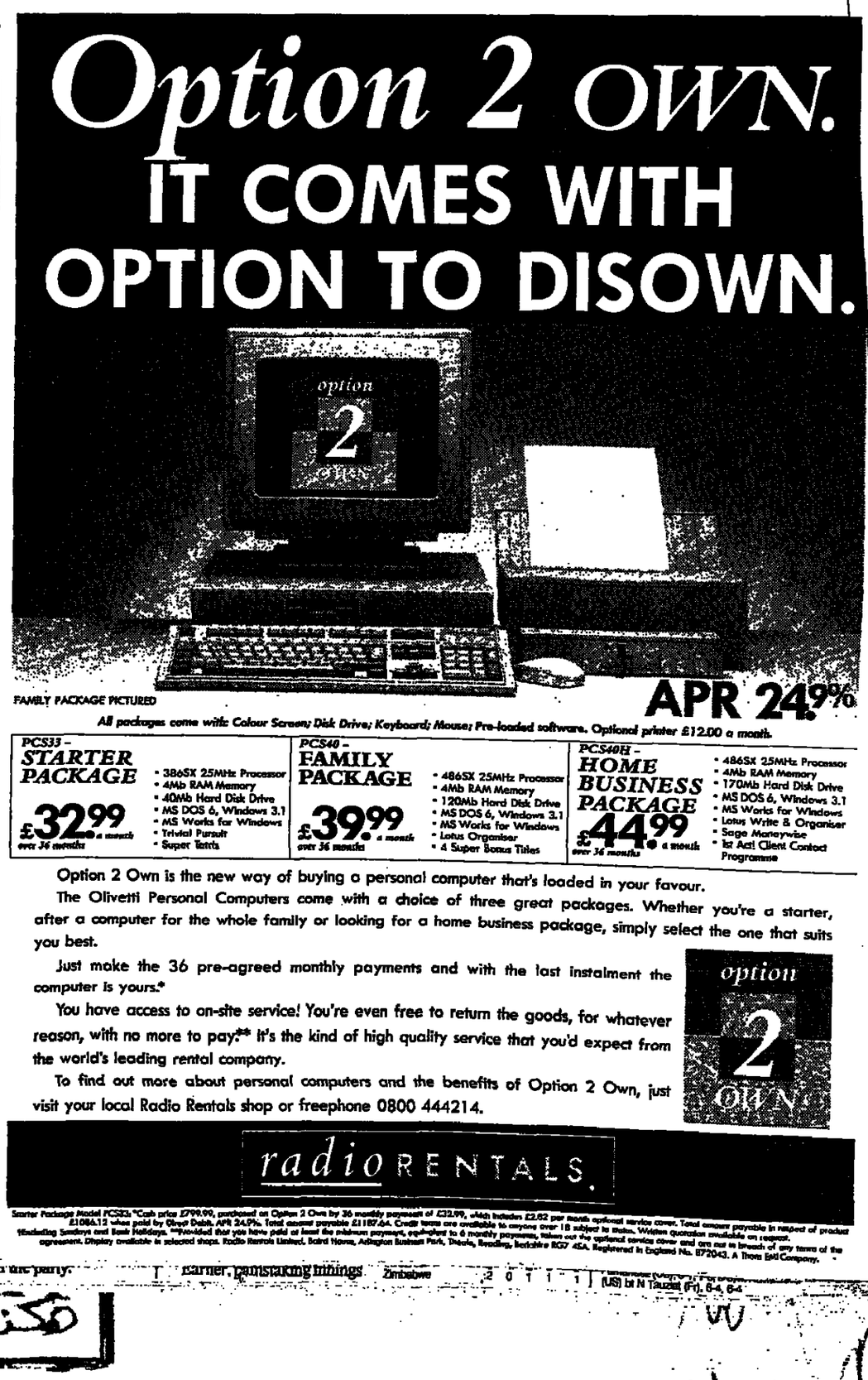
Cold pursuit

A shoplifter gave himself up after running into the icy river Chelmer, in Chelmsford, Essex, while being chased by store guards.

False alarm

An ice hockey fan stopped a match in Bracknell, Berkshire, when he shouted in excitement and his false teeth flew out and on to the ice.





هكذا من الأصل

Catholics and Jews fear neo-Fascist victory in Rome

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

■ The party of Mussolini's granddaughter says it has consigned its black shirts to the attic of history. The far right's traditional targets remain thoroughly unconvinced

GIANCARLO Fini, the neo-Fascist leader, today ends his campaign to become mayor of Rome with the Roman Catholic Church and the city's chief rabbi uncertain that they can stop him winning.

"We are not worried only about Jews, but also gypsies, immigrants and the weak," said Claudio Fano, president of the Roman Jewish community. An opinion poll in *La Repubblica* predicted yesterday that Signor Fini, secretary of the neo-Fascist Italian Social Movement (MSI), will win 25 per cent of the vote in the capital on Sunday and qualify for a run-off against the favourite, Francesco Rutelli, the Green party leader, given 42 per cent of the vote.

Signor Fini has toned down his party's heel-clicking symbolism and condemned what he calls "trials against history" *by his opponents. "Fini claims* he has put his black shirt in the attic," *Il Messaggero* declared.

A swing to the MSI is expected in several cities as former supporters of the scandal-racked Christian Democrat (DC) party succumb to fear of the devolutionist Lombardy League and distaste for the Democratic Party of the Left (PDS), the former Communists which sponsors Signor Rutelli. Alessandra Mussolini, granddaughter of the dictator Benito, believes she will become mayor of Naples. MSI candidates are predicted also to do well in Trieste, Cosenza, Pescara and Latina. The neo-Fascists then expect sweeping gains in a spring general election.

"Up to now, one always has spoken of three poles, the League, PDS and DC," said Francesco Storace, an MSI spokesman. "But after November 21 it will be clear that, without the right, no alternative to the League and PDS is feasible."

Mgr Clemente Riva, auxiliary bishop of Rome, has urged Catholics to vote against Signor Fini. "The Catholic Church shares the concern of our Jewish brothers for a possible right-wing success in Rome. We must be vigilant: these people seem new but they express old ideologies that risk taking us back to the *ventennio* [20 years of Fascism]," he said. The church, which once tacitly supported Il Duce against communism in the 1930s, stepped into the fray this week.

"The Vatican won't let a Fascist become mayor of Rome," a Roman taxi driver said. "Italy has made too many *brutte figure* (bad images) in the past. Electing Fini would be the end of our country." Romans face a bewildering array of candidates, including Vittorio Ripa di Meana, brother of Carlo, the former European commissioner, who is standing for the centrist Alliance. Also standing is Renato Niccolini, an architect supported by the hardline Marxist Communist Refoundation, and Moana Pozzi, a pornographic actress, the Party of Love candidate.

Signor Fini's trump card is official support for the first time and considerable finance from the national association of retailers, Confcommercio, previously loyal to the DC. The shopkeepers are worried by soaring government taxes, but hundreds of Jewish retailers have resigned from the association in protest.

To ease the fears of Jews, Signor Fini has found Filippo Fiorentini, a maverick Jewish *retailer, to stand as an MSI* candidate in an election for aldermen. But Elio Toaff, the chief rabbi, has let it be known that the community has disowned Signor Fiorentini.

Also supporting the MSI chief are tens of thousands of unemployed so-called Nazi-skin thugs. In October last year many of them raised their arms in Fascist salutes as they staged a provocative illegal demonstration through the capital to mark the seventieth anniversary of Mussolini's march on Rome.

The Christian Democrats has put up Carmelo Caruso, a former senior civil servant. If, as expected, he is eliminated on Sunday, the DC will apparently ask supporters to vote for Signor Rutelli in a run-off.

Anti-Fascist Partisan veterans' leaders urge Romans not to offend the memory of the thousands of citizens killed in Nazi-Fascist massacres such as the shooting by SS troops of hundreds of civilians at the Ardeatine caves outside the capital in reprisal for a partisan attack.

Rome: Sergio Cragnotti, the *Italian financier and chairman* of Lazio football club, which Paul Gascoigne plays for, was expected to give himself up to police last night after a warrant for his arrest was issued by magistrates heading the country's corruption enquiry (*Philip Willan writes*). Signor Cragnotti, 53, is charged with false accounting when a director of the Montedison chemicals company and managing director of its Enimont joint venture with the ENI state energy firm. Investigators believe Montedison's parent company paid bribes.



General Muhammad Farrah Aidid addressing a large crowd of jubilant supporters in Mogadishu, the Somali capital, yesterday, his first day out of hiding in five months. Dressed in a Hawaiian shirt, the leader of the Somali National Alliance (SNA), who forced both Washington and the United Nations to abandon their bloody attempts to arrest him, said: "Today is a day of victory and it was achieved by the hard struggle of the SNA people" (Sam Kiley writes). The hunt for General Aidid left 70 foreign soldiers and at least 700 Somalis dead. His militia and civilian supporters inflicted the heaviest battlefield losses on American troops since Vietnam. The October 18 killing of 18 Special Forces soldiers and airmen during a battle in which about 200 Somalis also died was the last straw for the Clinton administration, which quickly called off the manhunt. This week the UN fell into line behind Washington and lifted the arrest order for the general and withdrew its offer of a $25,000 (£17,000) reward for his head.

Nigerians await coup fallout



Abacha: power behind two previous coups

BY SAM KILEY, AFRICA CORRESPONDENT, AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THE bloodless coup against the unelected civilian government in Nigeria left Africa's most populous country waiting nervously yesterday for a statement from General Sani Abacha, its new head of state.

The general, 50, deputy to Ernest Shonekan, the president who resigned under pressure from the military on Wednesday night after 82 days in office, was expected to address the nation last night after meeting senior military commanders. Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, yesterday deplored the reversal of the democratic process in Nigeria. "This is a serious step backward not merely for Nigeria, but for Africa as a whole."

Riot police in Lagos dispersed hundreds of demonstrators with tear gas as protests broke out about the takeover. Bonfires were lit on main roads but the central business area was calm.

General Abacha has been the power behind two coups and the man who crushed a third in the past decade. He has spent the past three months as defence minister sacking his opponents and promoting his supporters. Diplomatic sources said yesterday there had been signs of growing divisions in the armed forces about whether to endorse the results of the annulled June presidential election, or to attempt to maintain military control.

NEWS IN BRIEF

America removes diplomat suspects

Athens: America removed two of its diplomats from Greece yesterday after they were arrested as suspected terrorists, Karolos Papoulias, the foreign minister, said.

The two men were released because of their diplomatic immunity after they were found in a van with guns, wigs and transmitters this week. Both men were armed and one was wearing a red wig.

November 17, the left-wing guerrilla group which has killed four American diplomats or soldiers here since 1975, has often used stolen vans and wigs in its attacks. A spokesman for the American embassy in Athens declined to comment on the presence of the US diplomats in Greece. *(Reuter)*

Kurds held

Paris: French anti-terrorist police have detained more than 100 Kurdish militants. The raids were intended to head off violent actions, which were allegedly being planned by the Kurdistan Workers' Party of Turkey.

Uganda plea

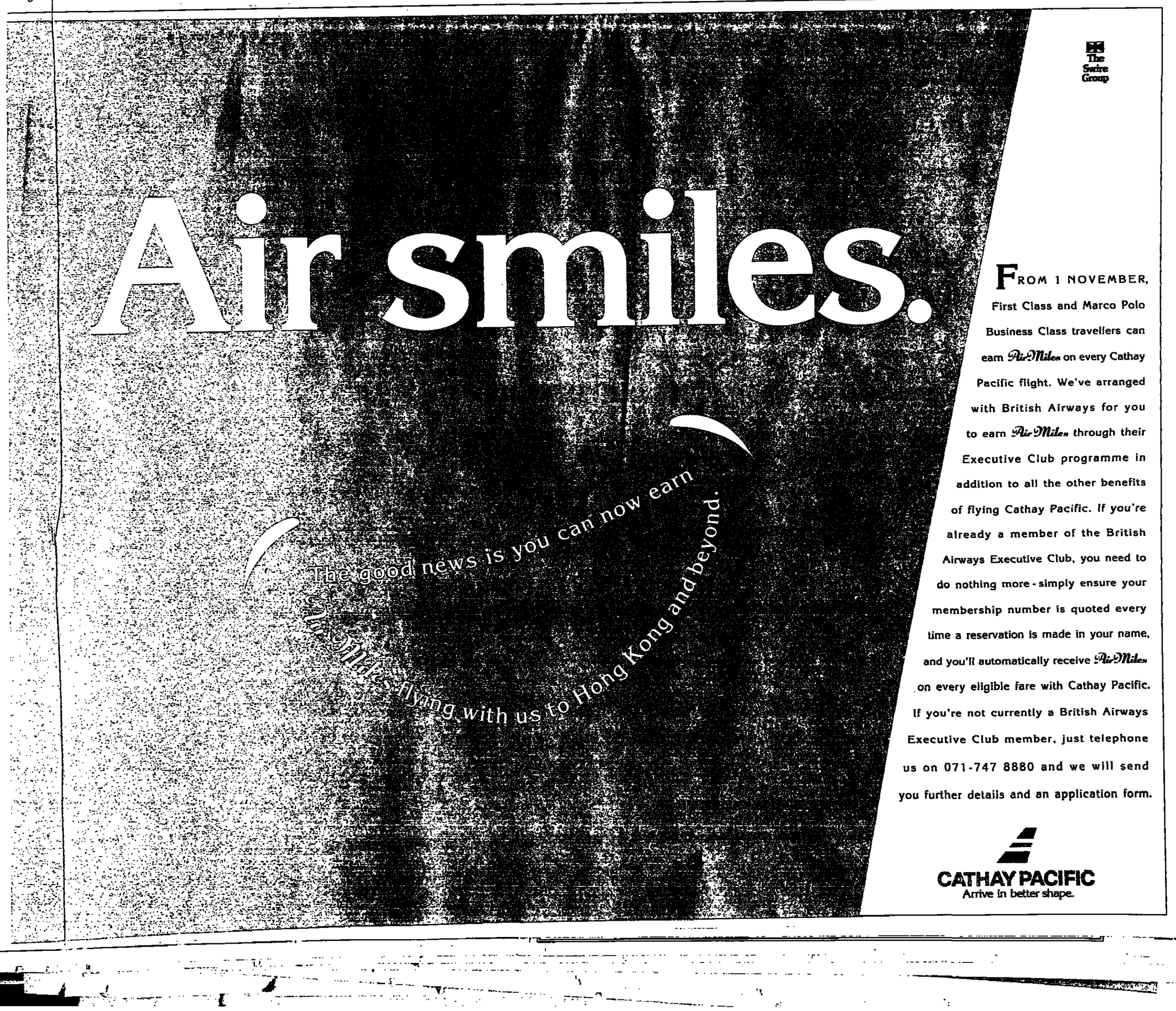
Kampala: Uganda has asked international donors for £367 million to fund a five-year plan to help slow the spread of Aids. Nearly 10 per cent of Ugandans are infected with the HIV virus. *(AP)*

Advertising ban

Sofia: Bulgaria has banned tobacco advertising from radio, television, transport and billboards, carrying fines of up to £34,000. Advertising is restricted to shops selling tobacco products, the government said. *(Reuter)*

Tamils bombed

Colombo: Sri Lankan jets bombed Tamil rebel boats, killing at least 50 people, the defence ministry said. The fighters were crossing from the Tamil-held Jaffna peninsula to the mainland, it was reported yesterday. *(AP)*



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Bosnian factions offer convoys safe passage

By Adam Lebor, East Europe Correspondent

Independent aid agencies, fearful of mass deaths this winter in the former Yugoslav republic, are accusing the UN Protection Force of only protecting itself

AID convoys are expected to resume deliveries to the cold and hungry in central Bosnia soon, after the country's three warring factions yesterday formally agreed to guarantee them safe passage. The convoys are vital as freezing weather begins to take a grip in the former Yugoslav republic.

Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, Haris Siladzic, the prime minister, and Mate Boban, the Bosnian Croat chief, pledged after a meeting in Geneva with Sadako Ogata, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, that their armies would not shoot at the convoys and would allow them unhindered access to those needing aid and relief supplies.

UN officials hailed the deal as the most detailed yet signed by the warring parties on the resumption of relief supplies. Even if the three leaders are sincere in their pledge, however, in many areas they have no authority over local military officers who run their fiefdoms like brutal warlords and answer to nobody.



UN officials said the key point of the Geneva agreement was that the three warring sides had agreed that the UN and International Committee of the Red Cross would determine the contents of aid convoys. The UN has for months been trying to move winter equipment such as coal and plastic sheeting into the war zone, only to have its convoys turned back by local commanders who claim that the supplies could have military uses. "This agreement is different because all three sides have people in bad shape who are suffering. The leaders are all under a lot of pressure from their own people," said Sylvana Foa, the high commissioner's spokeswoman in Geneva.

As the first snows of winter fall in Sarajevo, independent aid organisations working in former Yugoslavia are lining up to denounce the UN relief effort as an ineffective sop for the West's conscience that merely provides an excuse for not intervening to stop the conflict.

UN aid officials admit that the relief effort to Bosnia is at crisis point and that hundreds of thousands of people face death from cold and hunger this winter as convoy traffic into central Bosnia has all but completely seized up.

Anne-Marie Huby, speaking on behalf of the French-based Médicins sans Frontiéres, said: "The UN Protection Force is a fraud. It doesn't protect anybody except itself. Every decision is taken in regard to possible implications for the UN troops on the ground. It's a Catch-22 and the UN can't do anything because they are there."

Many relief workers in Bosnia are now seriously questioning the value of their presence as they risk their lives feeding and providing medical help to people who may soon be killed anyway.

Furious Islamic relief organisations say they have hundreds of tonnes of relief supplies sitting uselessly in warehouses in Sarajevo because the high commissioner refuses to allow them to distribute the supplies independently. The UN agency says the organisations knew before the aid was flown in that its policy was for all relief to be channelled through the Bosnian government's humanitarian aid agency to ensure equitable distribution.



An elderly man dragging a sleigh loaded with firewood through the slush in the old quarter of Sarajevo after early winter snow fell on the Bosnian capital. UN agencies say hundreds of thousands face death from cold and hunger

Icy weather forces UK team to halt Sarajevo surgery

From Kurt Schork in Sarajevo

A BRITISH medical charity suspended most surgery in Sarajevo yesterday, saying that freezing conditions in the main hospital and malnourished patients made operations so risky as to be unethical.

"I regret to announce we're having to suspend our programme and ask our reserve of surgeons to stand down," said Philip Garvin, programme director for Humanitarian Aid and Medical Development in Sarajevo.

Mr Garvin said one immediate consequence of the decision was the cancellation of reconstructive surgery for ten Sarajevo children — eight of them war wounded — planned for early December. The charity has been working in Sarajevo since June with teams of surgeons from Britain performing reconstructive and non-emergency surgery at Kosevo hospital, the city's main medical facility.

Local doctors spend most of their time performing emergency surgery in a city where more than 50,000 residents have been killed or wounded since Serb forces began their siege 19 months ago.

The charity has saved the limbs and joints of many war-wounded patients through reconstructive surgery to restore tendons and blood circulation. The group's efforts have been hailed as a practical alternative to expensive and also politically difficult medical evacuations.

But the siege by the Serbs has turned electricity, running water and heat into luxuries at Kosevo hospital, where doctors perform surgery in cold operating rooms and patients recover in unheated wards.

The arrival of cold weather and the progressively weakened condition of Sarajevo's residents, who have subsisted on meagre rations, have combined to produce an alarming increase in postoperative complications over the past month.

If the combined efforts of the international community cannot keep the capital's main hospital heated, then the strategy of local treatment seems likely to come under intense scrutiny once again.

The hospital is heated with natural gas, but is heating pumps are started by diesel fuel. At the moment the hospital has neither. "Last year we had some gas, but this year the supplies of gas have been very irregular," remarked Zilha Ademalj, a hospital manager. "If the situation goes on like this, we will have a catastrophe." *(Reuter)*

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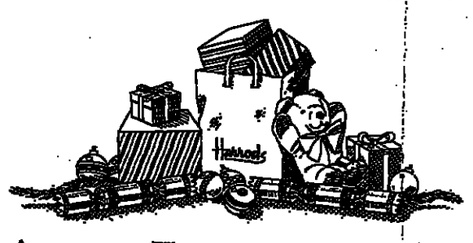
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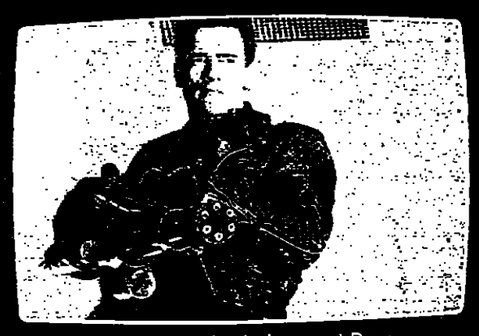
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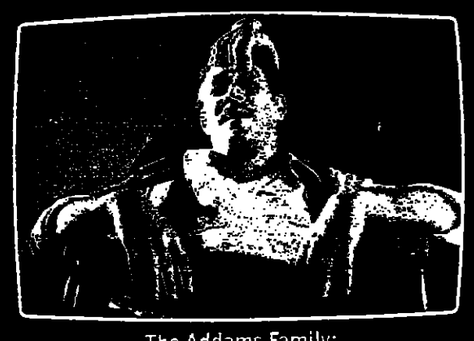
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SKY

Comeback Kid reaps rewards of Nafta victory

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

■ Bill Clinton's image as a weak fumbler has been ended by his tough Nafta battle. He must now show he has the skills to heal the wounds torn in the bitter Democratic ranks

PRESIDENT Clinton yesterday celebrated a famous victory on the North American Free Trade Agreement that beat back a rising tide of protectionism in America and sent his political stock soaring but left many Democrats deeply embittered.

Mr Clinton said the surprisingly comfortable 234-200 House of Representatives vote to create the world's biggest free trade zone gave him a "strengthened hand" to argue for a lowering of Asian trade barriers at today's 15-nation Pacific Rim summit in Seattle.

The vote heralded a new drive to clinch a global trade liberalisation agreement through Gatt's Uruguay Round by the December 15 deadline, and the president also pledged to work to extend Nafta to Latin America's other free market democracies.

Nafta will eliminate almost all tariffs between America, Canada and Mexico over the next 15 years, creating a free trade zone of 360 million consumers with a GDP approaching $7,000 billion (£4,000 billion).

The vote was a "defining moment for our nation," Mr Clinton said. America had chosen "to compete, not retreat, to lead a new world economy". Vice-President Al Gore said Nafta, which the Senate is certain to endorse, would give the president "tremendous leverage" to tear down barriers to American products around the world.

At home Mr Clinton's image was transformed overnight from that of a fumbling president to that of a strong leader prepared to fight for his convictions, even at the cost of enraging his party's most powerful constituencies — organised labour, minorities and environmentalists.

Tom Foley, the House Speaker, said in 30 years he had never seen a president fight so hard. *The New York Times* said he had "done what a president is supposed to do when issues are tough and the public is evenly divided — lead". The ruthlessness of Mr Clinton's lobbying invoked comparisons with Lyndon Johnson, not Jimmy Carter.

Mr Clinton's victory also revived his claims to be a pro-business New Democrat with broad appeal rather than an old-style liberal. Mr Clinton won with the support of 132 Republicans and appealed for continued bipartisanship on health care reform and other vital national issues.

At the same time, he acknowledged that the Nafta debate had torn apart the Democratic coalition and he sought swiftly to bind wounds. He said Nafta's foes were "right to speak out against economic conditions which have produced too few jobs and stagnant incomes" but wrong in their prescription. He urged them to work for more investment and training for workers so they could compete against low-wage Mexico, but bitterness will not easily be dissipated.

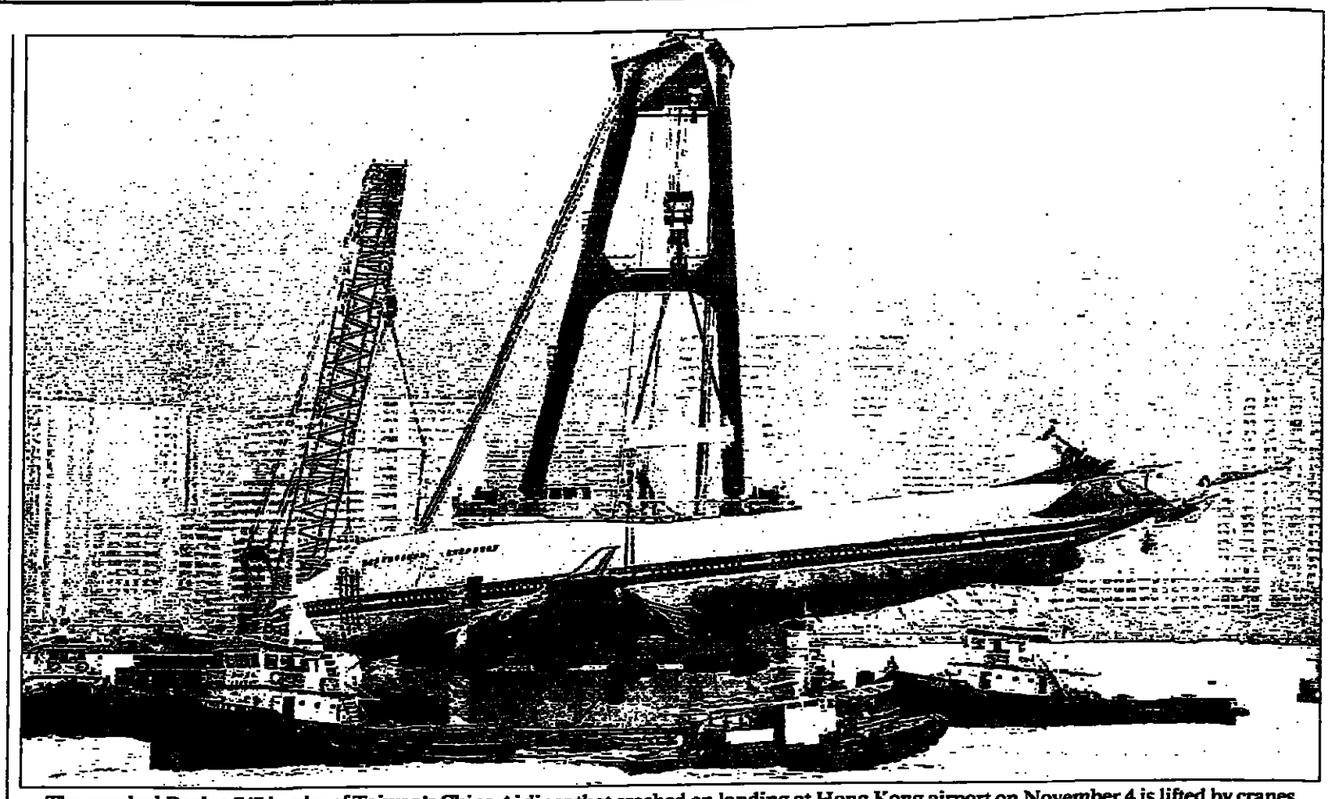
House Democrats split 156 to 102 against Nafta, exposing the deep fissure between liberals from the North-East's "Rust Belt", who accused Mr Clinton of betraying the working class, and centrist New Democrats from the South and West. Biggest loser was the declining trade unions, which staked all on defeating a deal which it said would destroy 500,000 jobs.

The frantic horse-trading slightly detracted from Mr Clinton's victory, but it was still a remarkable recovery by the "Comeback Kid".

Boost for Gatt, page 26



President Clinton and Vice-President Gore enter the White House smiling after the Nafta victory



The wrecked Boeing 747 jumbo of Taiwan's China Airlines that crashed on landing at Hong Kong airport on November 4 is lifted by cranes yesterday from the shallow waters at the runway's end before being moved to a position where it will not be in danger of blocking flights

Taco and burger fight culture war

BY DAVID ADAMS

MEXICANS did not take to the streets to celebrate the passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement through the US Congress. Instead, they were glued to the television watching World Cup football qualifying games, a sport of little or no interest to Americans.

There is little doubt that Nafta will mean some dramatic economic changes for a once heavily protected Mexican economy, but many Mexicans say they will resist the inevitable onslaught of imported American culture. American football is unlikely to overtake soccer in Mexico.

Others say that the writing is on the wall. Rapid Americanisation has already taken place in Mexico's consumer culture with a flood of fast-food stores that have pitted the hamburger against the taco. By all accounts the hamburger is winning, with McDonalds and Burger King in the front line.

Mexico City, the largest conurbation in the world with a population of 25 million, is a tantalising market for American exporters. Sales of US goods to Mexico have nearly quadrupled since the country started lifting import restrictions seven years ago.

But there are those who believe that Mexican culture can resist and may even have a reverse impact on America. They point out that Spanish-speaking immigrants, who already number 25 million, are the fastest growing minority in the US. "Mexico's indigenous and Spanish culture is very strong. After all it has survived for 3,000 years," said a diplomat and expert in Hispanic affairs.

Chinese dissident says US puts cash above morality

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY, EAST ASIA EDITOR, IN HONG KONG

WEI Jingsheng, China's most famous dissident and the last man President Clinton would want to attack his stand on Chinese human rights, has accused America of putting money before morality.

Mr Wei, 42, was jailed for 15 years in 1979 after calling for democracy and publishing attacks on the Communist Party and Deng Xiaoping at Peking's short-lived Democracy Wall. He was released two months ago, just before the International Olympic Committee decided on the venue of the 2000 Games. Chinese officials have admitted privately that Mr Wei's release, long demanded by American officials visiting Peking, was crudely handled.

Immediately after his release, Mr Wei called on the leadership for a free society and yesterday, in *The New York Times*, called Mr Clinton's new policy of "constructive engagement" with Peking, as opposed to tough talking, a "misguided shift".

Mr Wei gave a warning that the Chinese people would assume from Mr Clinton's new stance that the party had been right to charge that "the American government is controlled by rich capitalists. All you have to do is offer them a chance to make money and anything goes".



Mr Wei has spoken out after 15 years in jail

Mr Wei compared Peking's occasional freeing of political prisoners to curry international favour to hostage transactions where "the freedom of the prisoner is just a bargaining chip in the economic poker game".

□ **Peking:** The families of two dissidents arrested here after signing a "peace charter" for political change have sought in vain for information about their cases, friends said yesterday. A spokesman for the ministry of public security said that Qin Yongmin and Yang Zhou had been detained "for violating laws and regulations".

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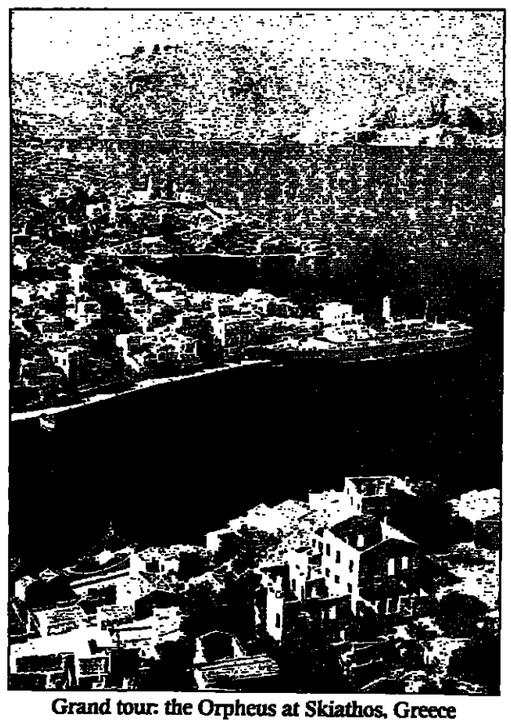
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The big decision is how best to explore it. Coach tours cover a lot of ground but can involve an exhausting amount of packing and unpacking and one of the Mediterranean's main attributes, that glorious sunshine, is squandered on long journeys by road.

Cruise holidays overcome these problems. Aboard ship, you can sunbathe, read and relax as you pass from port to port and, once unpacked, rest secure in the knowledge that, like the tortoise, you are taking your home with you.

An additional advantage is that many memorable sights are best seen from the deck of a ship, like the enchanting seaboard skylines of Istanbul and Venice and the cliffs of Capri, which rise sheer from the sea as your ship circumnavigates the island en route to Naples.

The Mediterranean Sea is thick with cruise ships of all sizes and standards. Some are cosmopolitan vessels owned by international lines offering lounge-lizard sophistication, others are cheap and cheerful "island hoppers" owned by local interests.

What most have in common are the ports of call: Athens, Istanbul, Venice, Civitavecchia, the gateway to Rome, Casablanca, Gibraltar, all offering travellers sunshine, shopping, good times and the occasional dash of culture.

But the lands of Apollo and Aphrodite, the ancient battlegrounds of Troy and Thermopylae, deserve a closer look. For more discerning travellers who really like to get under the skin of the places they visit, a cruise line specialising in adult educational cruises is the best option.

The longest established of these is Swan Hellenic Cruises, which celebrates its 40th anniversary this year. Part of the P&O Group, the company offers a range of eastern and western Mediterranean cruises aboard the Orpheus, which carries 250 passengers.

The ship's itineraries focus on the ancient sites of classical Greece and Turkey and feature destinations unheard of on most Mediterranean cruises, like Preveza on mainland Greece, which offers access to the remains of the 4th centure BC city of Cassope.

Nauplion is the starting point for a tour to the ancient hilltop city of Mycenae, home of Agamemnon, and Lerna, scene of Hercules' legendary defeat of the many-headed Hydra.

Expert lecturers accompany tours to bring ancient sites to life, detailed guides outlining the history of the regions visited are issued to passengers on embarkation and the ship's library is well stocked with definitive histories and guides.

Over 40 years, Swan Hellenic has earned itself the reputation of being "the thinking person's cruise line" and life on board Orpheus reflects the company's cerebral slant.

MARIA HARDING

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Departs 31 August 1994
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Savings from £193.

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Departs 2 May, 29 June 1994 (Arnhem-Basel). From £1320 (down from £1650) **Savings from £330**
Departs 11 May 1994 (Basel-Arnhem). From £1320 (down from £1650) **Savings from £330**

The following Nile cruises are on board the air-conditioned Nile Monarch, with accommodation for just 70 passengers.

NILE CRUISE This 17-day cruise travels 600 miles, sailing the full navigable length of the Nile between Cairo and Aswan. Highlights include the magnificent tombs of Thebes, Cairo Museum with its many treasures and of course, the Pyramids.
Departs 30 March, 12 October 1994 (Cairo-Aswan). From £1808 (down from £2260) **Savings from £452**
Departs 6 June 1994 (Aswan-Cairo). From £1572 (down from £1965) **Savings from £393**

UPPER EGYPT CRUISE A 15-day leisurely cruise of Upper Egypt, combining visits with cruising on the timeless river.
Departs 21 November, 30 November 1994. From £1680 (down from £2100) **Savings from £420**

SHORT CRUISES between Luxor and Aswan A 9-day cruise concentrating on the sites of Upper Egypt. Highlights include Luxor, and Aswan for Philae. In Cairo, we see the Pyramids and Sphinx at Giza and also the fascinating Cairo Museum.
Departs 12 December, 28 December 1994. From £1036 (down from £1295). **Savings from £259**

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A: It applies to the specific departure date and tour offered by the operator. Any number of people booking together on one booking form, together with ten tokens attached, can take part in the offer. It excludes any other supplements, including single room supplements, any other holiday, insurance, car hire (except where car hire is part of the specific tour offered by the operator), special excursions, amendments, surcharges, visas or cancellation charges.

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Q: Do I have to take any specific insurance?
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Q: Are the operators bonded?
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هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

Democratic era begins with campaign to mobilise the electorate

Mandela launches ANC drive for votes

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN JOHANNESBURG

NELSON Mandela had barely signed the agreement on the new South African constitution before he started preparing his people for the elections next April.

The 75-year-old president of the African National Congress did not go to bed on Wednesday night. He spent most of it at the World Trade Centre outside Johannesburg to sign and welcome the constitutional agreement so painfully hammered out there, then flew to Durban for some electioneering.

As he explained, he has never been able to vote and there is not much time to encourage people to register and vote for the ANC.

Another politician who flew to Durban to stump the hustings was President de Klerk, also short of sleep but at 57 easily able to cope. Mr de Klerk spoke to businessmen, to Chief Emeka Anyaoku, the secretary-general of the Commonwealth, and to the press. Mr Mandela spoke to church leaders and public meetings.

The ANC has taken a series of advertisements asking people what they want from a new government.

Danie Schutte, the home affairs minister, declared in Pretoria yesterday a new "awareness" campaign to motivate every person who is eligible to vote to apply for an identity document. The campaign is aimed at the 13 per cent who do not have ID documents.

Parliament will meet next week to pass the agreements into law. In two weeks the transitional executive council will begin work where black politicians will have direct access to executive power for the first time.

"Yippee!" exclaimed Desmond Tutu, Archbishop of Cape Town. "I think we have got to rejoice that this awful, awful, ugly, evil system of repression that has caused so much suffering is officially at an end. It has proved that right is stronger than evil."

In Britain, a Foreign Office statement congratulated all parties involved and called on them "to adhere strictly to the agreements reached". There were welcomes, too, from the European Union, America and Japan. The South African Council of Churches said: "Although the agreement may be seen as flawed and will not satisfy everybody, it heralds the beginning of a new era of democracy in our troubled land."

General Constand Viljoen, leader of the Afrikaner Volksfront, an umbrella organisation for white right-wingers, yesterday led his men in a two-day negotiation with the ANC to see whether there was any hope of amending the constitution. Koos van Rensburg, the organisation's secretary, was hopeful, saying: "We think our chances of agreement are better than 50 percent. We are absolutely determined to find a solution in a negotiated way. The alternative is unthinkable."

But General Viljoen insisted on describing the acceptance of the constitution as marking the beginning of a violent takeover by the communist-inspired ANC. He said constitutions meant nothing and power everything, therefore his supporters had to undergo military training to defend themselves.

There was little enthusiasm from Ciskei and Bophuthatswana. "To dismantle such sovereign states is no longer a matter for unilateral decision. Full bilateral negotiations will be necessary. Should agreement be reached as a result, the process of implementation will require prolonged and detailed examination," a statement from Bisho, the Ciskei capital, said.

Peter Brookes, page 20



President de Klerk of South Africa and Nelson Mandela, the African National Congress leader, showing their satisfaction yesterday after negotiators finished work at the interim constitutional talks near Johannesburg

New world dawns slowly on one of apartheid's last battlegrounds

FROM ROSS DUNN IN BOIPATONG

IT SEEMED like just another day when the residents of Boipatong township awoke yesterday morning. But slowly the word was going round that something was different in South Africa.

As the heat and dust drifted through the streets, here and there newspaper bills, gently flapping in the languid breeze, announced the "birth of a new nation".

The posters were headlining the successful outcome of negotiations on a new constitution to end centuries of white minority rule. But just 17 months ago the thought that such headlines would be appearing in Boipatong, of all places, had been unthinkable. For it was here in the township south of Johannesburg that some of the final battlelines were drawn between blacks and whites.

On a fateful June night, more than 200 people armed with spears, pangas and guns — the residents say they were black and white — kicked down the doors and walls of Boipatong's Slovo squatter camp, and massacred more than 40 unsuspecting blacks. One was a baby, impaled on a spear, as some of the killers allegedly howled: "Dogs of Mandela, die."

It was here, a few days after the killings, that President de Klerk, in his first visit to such a site, was driven away by thousands of shouting blacks convinced that government security forces had been behind the attack in a bid to halt progress towards democracy.

Responsible or not, that was what happened, with Nelson Mandela, the African National Congress president, pulling his organisation out of multilateral talks until this year.

One victim, Florence Molete, 35, was only vaguely aware that Mr Mandela had since steered discussions to the point where his chances of becoming president had been strengthened greatly. She had not heard the news because her radio had been destroyed in the raid and she could not afford another. But she said his election hopefully would mean an end to the violence that had left her brother-in-law dead and her niece paralysed.

She emphasised, however, that she would be counting on much higher powers to bring peace to the troubled land. "We are going to pray that the violence can stop, and South Africa can be a new South Africa," she said.

Geneva: The International Labour Organisation is to suspend a 30-year-old ban on giving technical help to South Africa. It said that its experts could now advise Pretoria on ending unfair labour laws and directly advise workers' groups on rights over strikes and lockouts as the country moves towards majority rule. *(Reuter)*

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De Klerk dream may end with rude awakening

FROM KIM GORDON-BATES IN JOHANNESBURG

If there is one thing about himself that President de Klerk will avow without hesitation, it is that he is not yesterday's man. Asked about his future at a recent lunch with journalists, he insisted that, this time next year, he would be "very much where I am now".

In the mid-1980s, when South Africa was racked by internal rebellion, under pressure on its borders from revolutionary Mozambique, Angola and Zimbabwe, and increasingly hit by sanctions, a new generation of governing National Party leaders broke away from the old values of Verwoerd and began to look forward. At first they saw merely the need for stop-gap measures to siphon off internal discontent and to circumvent sanctions.

This is what P. W. Botha, the former president, tried and failed to achieve. This in turn led to a simmering rebellion within the party, which was fuelled by Mr Botha's ill-health. Matters came to a head early in 1989, when Mr de Klerk took over and ushered South Africa and his party into a "transitional era".

But, in the words of Professor Gerrit Viljoen, the then minister of constitutional development and the party's chief ideologue: "We want to keep a right of veto at executive and legislative level," he said in 1991. It was that right of veto to which the African National Congress objected.

For a while, the National Party leadership toyed with the idea of "breaking the ANC's power base". Party organisers, realising that this was beyond their means, shifted their focus to that section of the black population unhappy with the ANC's close links with the South African Communist Party. Here they have had some measure of success, but whether this will be enough to keep them buoyant after next April's all-race elections is another matter: recent opinion polls give an indication that the party's expectations may be unduly optimistic.

The "political contract" yesterday takes this electoral weakness into account. It is more than likely that the ANC will win a big majority in the future 400-seat parliament. To be in the government of "national unity", a party needs to win at least 20 seats, and observers believe proportional representation will earn the Nationalists a "second place" and guarantee Mr de Klerk a job as a deputy president.



Botha: his ill-health fuelled rebellion

The agreement provides for at least two deputy presidents. During the later stages of the constitutional negotiations, the ANC successfully fought off attempts to impose a deputy presidential right of veto on the president's executive powers. The agreement, none the less, says that the integrated cabinet "shall function in a manner which gives consideration to the consensus-seeking spirit underlying the concept of government of national unity as well as the need for effective goverment". What that means in practice is still unclear.

A plain man's guide to the traits that distinguish two very different business traditions

Are you Harrogate or Hong Kong man?

This year's fashionable parlour game, invented by Lord Rees-Mogg, involves dividing the commercial world into two. Peter Millar explains how to play

Britain's most effective individu: entrepreneurs are Hong Kong type :orporate business leaders (partic: arly those who made speeches to th CBI) speak in and for Harrogate. Th abour party has long slumbered i- 'arrogate's Edwardian hotels, alo th the Liberal Democrats, Te eath and all_bu[illegible]



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☐ **HIS FAVOURITE PLACES:** Brussels; Washington; Harrogate	☐ **HIS FAVOURITE PLACES:** Munich; Hong Kong; Los Angeles;
☐ **HE OFTEN AGREES WITH:** Ted Heath; Michael Heseltine; John Smith; Hillary Clinton	☐ **HE OFTEN AGREES WITH:** Michael Portillo; Peter Lilley; Milton Friedman; Baroness Thatcher
☐ **HE READS:** The Guardian; The FT; The Daily Telegraph; The Observer	☐ **HE READS:** The Sunday Times; The Sunday Telegraph; Wall Street Journal
☐ **HIS IDEA OF FUN:** Subsidised opera at Covent Garden; French cinema	☐ **HIS IDEA OF FUN:** Late night satellite news; Hollywood movies
☐ **LEAST LIKELY TO SAY:** "Go for it"	☐ **LEAST LIKELY TO SAY:** "We must be really sure about this"



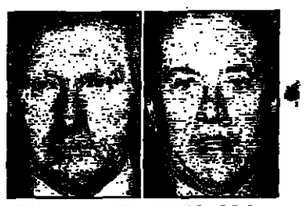


Harrogate: Sir Colin Marshall
Hong Kong: Richard Branson

Harrogate: Sir Edward Heath
Hong Kong: Michael Portillo



Harrogate: Lord Weinstock
Hong Kong: Alan Sugar



Harrogate: David Dimbleby
Hong Kong: Sir David Frost



Harrogate: Iain Vallance
Hong Kong: Lord Young

High up in one of the honeycomb towers overlooking the land reclamation schemes in Hong Kong harbour, my anglophile Chinese businessman host was prepared to be buoyant even about Armageddon: "When there's blood on the streets, that's the time to buy." He was joking but only just. "People in the West are afraid of instability. But I see high risk as meaning 'good odds'."

Lord Rees-Mogg in these columns yesterday picked up George Soros's application of chaos theory to economics, defining "far-from-equilibrium" conditions as the point where the bias in favour of balance breaks down and permanent revolution takes over. My Chinese acquaintance had no intention of setting himself up as an archetype. But he certainly fitted the Rees-Mogg definition of Hong Kong Man: on the high-risk, high-pressure cutting edge of business, as opposed to Harrogate Man, a solid, corporatist named for the meeting place of the CBI.

According to Rees-Mogg, the business world can be simply divided into two: the plodding Harrogate Man and his arch enemy the entrepreneurially driven Hong Kong Man.

Conrad Black, the Canadian entrepreneur and owner of the Telegraph Group, once quipped that whereas a British businessman made his million, bought a country house and retired, his North American counterpart saw the first million as a stepping stone to the next, and the next. He did not know it at the time but he was equipping his archetypal American with a soul made in Hong Kong. In the world of sartorial symbols, Hong Kong Man has a wardrobe full of Armani suits while Harrogate Man doffs his well-worn shiny pinstripe at the weekend for a set of elbow-patched tweeds.

You have to have been to Hong Kong, preferably recently, to grasp the aptness of the appellation. No city on earth possesses its commercial vitality. In comparison Manhattan might be Moreton-in-Marsh. Real-life Hong Kong Central is an environment in which the average life of a high-rise commercial building is 25 years, before it is torn down and rebuilt to keep up with the pace of technology. The Hong Kong Man sees his company in the same sort of terms. In this country, while Harrogate man is preparing a discussion paper for the board, our home-grown Hong Kong Man is restructuring, streamlining and sacking.

In Hong Kong itself, business is played as a game, with an almost boyish enthusiasm, but for life or death stakes. Punters put their money on the hongs in the Hang Seng index and on the horses in Happy Valley with equal seriousness and occasionally in equal amounts; playing a hunch is regarded as good gamesmanship even if Harrogate Man might see it as recklessly risking one's own livelihood and those of others. For Hong Kong man such small-mindedness belies the intrinsic excitement of business: the thrill of the new, implicit in technological advance, the joy of daring to dream and still make a profit.

By and large Harrogate Man still believes in making things; he just can't find anyone willing to do it for him cheap enough. Hong Kong Man, on the other hand, sees manufacturing as the necessary evil base for the real business of playing the markets and doing deals. He believes, with Baroness Thatcher, in the inherent superiority of the service sector, and in the cut and thrust of buying and selling. Harrogate Man believes "where there's muck, there's brass"; Hong Kong Man talks about wealth creation but doesn't mind getting his hands dirty. Hong Kong Man is an incurable optimist. He has to be, optimism is what keeps him afloat. The motto is simple: the medium is the market.

In global terms, the emergence of China, the predominance of Japan and the growth of the Pacific rim are realities it would make little sense to dispute. Hong Kong Man and Harrogate Man simply disagree on what to do about it. Harrogate Man would point out that Britain and the rest of Europe do not have a vast low-wage labour market on the doorstep and, as a result of a long period of evolving social consensus, are no longer willing to treat our own citizens as such. Nor, he might say, do we have the same geographical proximity to this burgeoning market.

Hong Kong Man's reply is that European bosses are likely to end up in the same smug, self-satisfied, snobbish and ultimately doomed position as the Chinese mandarins of the early 19th century, sneering at the rude Scottish opium traders who arrived sweaty from the hot steam of our industrial revolution and went on to become the multi-millionaire *tai pans* of the East. Adapt and survive is his credo.

The question is whether we Europeans are still capable of the evolution. Or whether we want to be. My friend Malcolm, a British lawyer who has made a lot of money out of soaring Hong Kong property values, remains resolutely Harrogate Man. His Chinese wife Cecilia is an unremitting Hong Kong Woman. Looking at the mooring space outside their extortionately expensive New Territories home, I asked if he would like to have a boat moored there, just a dinghy perhaps? "Yes maybe", he replied, "but Cecilia would have to have a motor launch." She, meanwhile, was inside drawing up plans to sell their house at a 100 per cent profit, buy a smaller flat and reinvest the difference while the market is in their favour, oblivious to his half-hearted plea in the background: "But I like living here."

It is, of course, not essentially a racial division, although which tendency is dominant may well depend on some complex historical national biorhythm. Chinese history has its own parallels: the Great Wall to keep out the Mongol invaders was a classic construction of Harrogate Man, an example of blithe optimism in the face of an oncoming wave. But Hong Kong Man was at work in the person of the sharp frontier officials who opened the doors to the Mongols for a price.

For Hong Kong Man looks after himself first and believes that that is the only way to ensure prosperity, in spreading concentric circles. As most of the Hong Kong business community who profess optimism about 1997 will admit, good business has not a lot to do with democracy. In comparison, Harrogate Man is a democrat at heart, but one likely to be left, in Hong Kong Man's eyes, with nothing more important than a casting vote on the parish council.

As much as anything it is a difference of speed and scale, about high seas piracy versus cross Channel ferries or, put another way, about the relative values of a bird in hand and the flock in the bush. To keep his principles on solid ground, Harrogate Man is obliged at least to make sure his old Victorian hotel runs well, can keep its customers and stop the newcomer blotting the comfortable landscape with his cost-efficient, cutprice, timeshare highrise. Without going bankrupt, that is.

This Christmas, the popular parlour game will be dividing up the nation between Harrogate and Hong Kong.

Hong Kong may be a vision of the future. But Harrogate will certainly be a nicer place to live. As long as it lasts, that is.

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Be brave, let them go

The night time tragedy on the M40 must not be used as a reason to stop schools organising educational trips



LIBBY PURVES

THERE can be no piece of hindsight, no avenue of self-reproach, which has not already plagued everyone involved with the 11 who died on the M40. Within hours, there was talk of regulations, of motorway design, of EC restrictions on mini-bus drivers (from which Britain has secured an exemption).

Every possible thing that might have stopped the disaster has been sought: and the dreadful fact remains that nothing did. Ten talented children, on their way home from a Schools Prom, are lost. Few parents can have passed yesterday without a tear.

In our fears, we have all been there. In my son's first term, he came home shining-faced with a note about the reception class trip to a local bakery. It was only four miles, but by chance I was in my car behind the coach as it drove back to school (one could see them through the back window, bouncing in glee). And I suddenly realised that after five years of strapping this child into ever more sophisticated baby-seats, choosing cars for their crumple-zone and endangering friendships by banning him from lifts in friends' cars that lacked belts, I had handed him over to a wider and less scrupulous society, where even the smallest children rattle around unrestrained on school buses because there is no law against it.

The shock faded. He baked his first loaf and I accepted the status quo. As a parent-helper I have joined several school trips, state and private; mainly by coach but once (with a rare and old-fashioned sense of security) by train. The overwhelming impression is of the extreme carefulness of the teachers and the awesome responsibility they take.

This makes it slightly easier when, without me, my son and daughter go to museums and theatres and steam railways, to the Norfolk Broads and — once, dramatically — to Italy. The relief when the coach or minibus sweeps home is always immense: matched only by the children's cocky delight in the new experiences they have had and we haven't.

Of course it is important, in days of grief like this, to face up to our national shortcomings. We have made economies and compromises in areas we probably should not have. If Hagley's tragedy means that vehicles carrying schoolchildren soon have belts, proper seats instead of benches, and fuel cut-off devices to avoid fire, it will be an advance. If private school parents boycotted vehicles of which they disapprove (some of the barest minibuses belong to fee-paying schools), it might encourage the public sector.

But what must not happen is a backlash against school trips. We are in some danger of this: the Dorset canoe tragedy and other deaths have already prompted a cut-back in outdoor education bookings, and the government's refusal to consider compulsory registration of centres does not help. There is some risk that the M40 disaster, coupled with recent financial restrictions on school trips and the general dour climate of getting "back to basics", will make some voices say that schoolchildren ought to stay put in school buildings. This must not happen.

It is vital for provincial children to see their capital and for city children to see their countryside; vital for those whose family outlook is restricted and bleak to be shown the wonders of science, nature and art. These trips feed enthusiasm for whole terms: memories of them last a lifetime.

ONCE, on an elderly Suffolk bus, our village school rattled home through the worst January gales on record after seeing David Holman's *Whale* at the National Theatre. The trip took five hours instead of three, past countless overturned lorries and tangled power-lines. We had some fears, and the parents waiting by candle-light at the school had rather more. On the other hand, the children were exalted by the play. At one point the drama teacher said: "I don't care. Look at them. It's been worth it."

On the night they died, the Hagley children had played at the Albert Hall, at the heart of their capital city. They will have been elated and triumphant. Right now, this will comfort nobody. In later years, it might.



If you want to know ALL the school league table facts and figures you will find them ONLY in The TES.

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Do-gooders who swap begging bowls for a briefcase

Today, Britain's 200,000 fund-raising operations, competing for a total annual income of £16 billion, rely more on sharp business brains and good management than just faith and hope, says Rachel Kelly

One would imagine that David Scott-Ralphs worked in the City. Wearing a stripy shirt and well-cut suit, I couldn't quite see if he was wearing red. Gordon Gekko-style braces, but I would bet his Mont Blanc pen he probably was.

Here, in his own CV, is his description of what he does for a living. "Has successfully established significant partnerships with many big companies: £20 million raised in two years. Increasingly involved with general management issues."

Note the positive verbs; the dynamic adjectives. Here is a man who knows his USP (unique selling proposition) from his FMCG (fast-moving consumer goods); his P and L (profit and loss) account from his PR budget. Yet Mr Scott-Ralphs works for the Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund.

All but gone from such charitable offices (except at the very highest echelons) are the retired colonels and blue-rinse matrons in twin sets, tweeds and pearls who once dominated. All but gone are many of the ex-civil servants on a second career who were a dab hand with the collecting box. Bye-bye to ladies who lunch and men of military bearing. Welcome to the new face of the fund-raiser.

Actually, the likes of David Scott-Ralphs aren't usually called fund-raisers. Most of the new breed of charity worker prefer to be called "managers" or "co-ordinators". They don't work for charities so much as "non-profit organisations", which "pitch" for business and "maximise potential" and have — or wish to develop — "distinctive profiles". There is much talk of "sectors", as in the "voluntary sector" or the "public sector" or the "private sector". So, for example, at a drinks party one might introduce oneself as working "in the voluntary sector".

And very proud one would sound too. These are highly desirable jobs, fought over by the cream of Oxbridge graduates. Agencies have sprung up to match charities to non-profit managers. Charity People, set up in May 1990, has 3,000 job-hunters at any one time on its books in search of roughly 700 jobs a year. It has processed 25,000 applications over the last year.

Many do-gooders are young with excellent degrees. The average age of those who work at Shelter, the housing pressure group, is 29. Carolan Davidge, 25, press officer for Shelter, graduated from Goldsmiths' College, London University, and worked for a year in the students' union as a welfare officer before signing up with Shelter.



Charity workers: Carolan Davidge, centre, with David Scott-Ralphs in striped shirt and Nicholas Paton

Nicholas Paton, 26, exhibitions officer at the British Red Cross, worked at G-Plan furniture as an exhibitions designer after taking a degree in the same subject. Mr Scott-Ralphs left Lincoln College, Oxford, with a degree in modern languages and joined Lloyds Bank International as a management trainee. He moved onto Euro-bond dealing, lived through the 1987 crash, and set up a new business in 1988 before joining the Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund. All could have continued to pursue their successful careers in the private sector.

So it's not simply that such folk are working for charity because they could not get jobs elsewhere. Charities appeal. "People are fed up with the commercial sector," says Susan Butler, who, at 43, interviews many potential candidates for jobs with Cancer Relief.

There is a chance to experiment with experience gained elsewhere, says Mr Paton, because charities can be more imaginative and dynamic as their structures are changing so rapidly.

Structures are flat rather than hierarchical, employers are enlightened and believe in job-sharing, equal opportunities, job evaluation and training. And pay up till the senior levels is nearly equivalent to the private sector. Feel the job satisfaction.

There is a sense that your work is worthwhile. During the 1960s, many believed that charities might become irrelevant because of the provision of state services, says Winifred Tumim, chairman of the working party responsible for a report published last year, *On Trust: Increasing the Effectiveness of Charity Trustees and Management Committees*.

Instead, she says, the opposite has happened. There has been an ideological shift away from state intervention, and a growing importance for the role of charities as they meet gaps which the government is failing to fill. Employees take pride in not making personal telephone calls at work.

And all this discipline and professionalism is vital to the charities. Whereas in the past charities used to derive their funds principally from grass roots voluntary work — ie the public — and private philanthropy, now for many charities business provides about half of their funds. At Cancer Relief, for example, half of its latest £20 million fund-raising came from business. Thus the techniques of the boardroom are increasingly needed for charities to survive in an increasingly competitive world.

Around 200,000 British charities are now in competition. Their total annual income in 1990 was more than £16 billion. But a survey by the Charities Aid Foundation this year found that 64 per cent of charities complained of a decrease in income, combined with an increase in demands on their help. Cancer Relief now helps about 150,000 people a year; Shelter helps 62,000. The more men in red braces the better.

One man is hauling an inner-city sink college to respectability by the scruff of its scrubbed neck

'Before Mr Clark came, they didn't expel no one. He told us to buck up'

Enough praise has been heaped on schools with 100 per cent GCSE passes and nil truancy. If the Bluecoat School in Liverpool, or Chelmsford High School for Girls gets to the top of the league, so they ought, with a selective intake of presentable, highly-motivated children with aspirational parents.

Show me, instead, an inner-city sink and someone doing something positive with it . . .

So here I am in a benighted area of Battersea, of leafless streets and grey council estates in south London. And here is Michael Clark, a short, quick man of 50 with white hair *en brosse* and enormous ears, who darts about — I mean this kindly — with a rodent-like determination. He was a schoolboy of the old-fashioned kind. He was head boy of ancient Dame Allan's in Newcastle, where he had a scholarship, and went up to Cambridge to read English under Dr Leavis at Downing. Now he is making an urban hell-hole school into a white-hot technological showcase.

Yes, a lot of it is to do with money (from Wandsworth, a Tory borough prepared to lavish millions) and with modern managerial techniques. Clark is an information technology nut, has a virtual reality unit and is a disciple of Tom Peters, the American business guru. One can imagine how the chalky old teachers must have bridled when Mr Clark arrived with his computers and techno-jargon.



THE VALERIE GROVE INTERVIEW

But I have observed Mr Clark in his school. The successful head teacher makes it plain that he is in charge. Mr Clark may dive onto his knees to address children on their own level, but when he walks into a classroom, they all stand up. He takes only a brief glance at this week's league tables : only six pupils got five A-C grades at GCSE last year. He approves of league tables — "The public has a right to information" — but then we must look at the context.

Two years ago Battersea Park School was the ultimate sink. Nobody wanted to send their children there, so they got all the disruptive louts other schools chucked out. A building for 1,300 pupils could attract only 370, its horrible concrete walls covered in graffiti. Last year it came 17th from the bottom in the league tables, at number 4,382. What better starting point for a new headmaster? Clark has the Tyneside manner: rapid, blunt and straight to the point. His fellow Tynesiders Brian Redhead and Sir John Hall, the Northumbrian entrepreneur, would, one suspects, approach running a school very like this: to ask what's wrong? why? and what shall we do about it?

When he was headhunted to take on this job — because he had rescued another comprehensive threatened with closure, West Denton in Newcastle — "I made my presentation in a very blunt fashion. I said, if you want this place turned round, this is how I'd do it."

First, the name was changed to Battersea Technological College: "College gives a better indication of our intentions." Mr Clark is not headmaster but "principal". The three-term school year was changed to ten half-terms, the school day was extended to 5.30pm. Teaching is done in "modules"; the college appoints outside "mentors". Instead of being just a neighbourhood comprehensive they are allowed to select 150 applicants by an aptitude test of their "technological orientation", which seems to involve things like examining a tin opener and judging its efficacy. On the school's upper floors, a Business Park is being created, where an Information Technology company will rent out units, and where students can get work experience.

His prospectus opens with "Vision Statement and Corporate Objectives". It rings with technological verbiage about aims, resources, management structure, dialogue, shared decision-making, target setting, flow of information and a corporate "commitment to Kaizen and Learning for Life."

Kaizen? "Commitment to self-improvement," Clark explains. "That's our Japanese approach. The problem in Western thought is that everything is binary — either/or; the Eastern view is both/and, so you don't get that constant dissonance: you tolerate ambiguity. It's not compromise, it's just recognising that the world is rather a squidgy place. In a period of rapid change you can't afford to throw the baby out with the bathwater. Another image I use is one of white-water management: I'm in a canoe, I know where the rapids are, so occasionally go backwards but I'm still sailing down the river."

DENZIL McNEELANCE



Michael Clark and the blunt approach: "If you want this place turned round, this is how I'd do it" was his line

We walk around the newly carpeted, freshly painted corridors. No graffiti. Some litter, despite new waste-bins. Vandal-proof fire alarms and light-switches. (Setting off fire-alarms used to be a pastime.) A swimming-pool; an area for playing *boules*.

Every child we meet is stopped and questioned. "Tyrone! Where should you be? Who sent you? Have you got a note? Show me your contact book." In one class every child is working on computers, creating files of household expenditure. In another, uniformed children sit in rows reading that old-fangled thing, a book. "Watch what happens when I go in," says Clark. (They all stand.) He fires a question: "What is this book about?" Twelve children tell us about the boy from "Hungaria".

When I arrived in his office (awash with computer screens and users' manuals) Clark was seeing a team of education psychologists about 38 cases of students with behavioural difficulties. So he left me with Carlene, aged 14.

Carlene is a beautiful child, daughter of a white mother and a Jamaican father — no longer around. Her mother, who is now expecting a third child should have been there to see Mr Clark but was at the ante-natal clinic instead. If any child has discipline problems, the parent is summoned at once.

Before Mr Clark came, Carlene said, kids could do what they liked — bunk off for a month at a time; nobody did anything about it. "They didn't expel no one. Then Mr Clark came. In assembly he told us a lot of things were going to change. 'We're going to buck up our attitudes' he said. 'This is not a holiday camp.'

"Before, all the corridors was littered with crisp packets and you couldn't see the walls for graffiti. Now you can only eat in the playground. And you can't wear caps." (Mr Clark's study displays a dozen baseball caps, trophies of the new regime.)

> 'I won't say we'll ever be Eton — but I wouldn't teach there anyway'

Carlene had been sent to the head for "mucking about in the dining hall". Some girl had been picking on a first year boy, so she'd "got her in a headlock". I'm someone who sometimes flips, and I'm not my normal self," she said, offering me a piece of gum.

I later heard Mr Clark telling her: "You have a simple choice. You will behave yourself, or you will be suspended."

Viewers may recall the BBC programme *Inside Story: The New Principal*, which filmed Mr Clark's first year. There he was seen telling the glum staff that they would all have to re-apply for their jobs. And facing angry NUT officials when pupils were made to do the much-maligned English tests last year: "It's my job to make sure they *fly*. Are you going to be winners?" (Chorus of "Yes!" from pupils.)

Truancy used to be "horrendous". "Now, if your child is not in school by 9.30, we phone you. The parents love it. Truancy has improved by two thirds in the last year. But 40 per cent of the children are casual admits, offloaded from other schools, persistent truants who had never been institutionalised."

Soon they will have a computerised registration system which will show at the press of a button who should be attending your lesson. "Wonderful stuff," says Clark. Expensive? "Twenty thousand quid. But Wandsworth has a major truancy problem and we had the worst problem in the borough, so I got a grant of £15,000 towards the hardware."

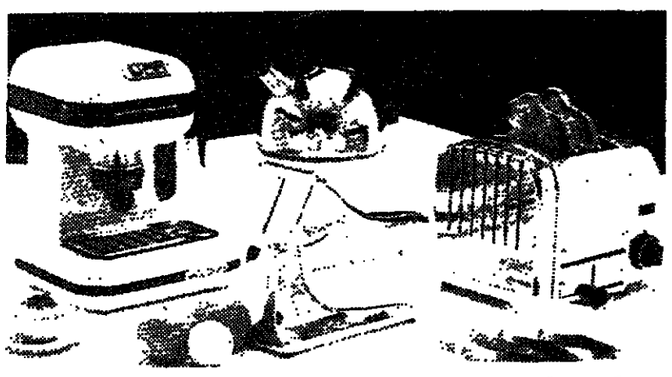
It all seems a long way from Dr Leavis. "No it's not. Leavis was all for excellence. Databases are only tools. We must not be bemused by technology." While his wife (whom he met at school, when she was head girl of Dame Allan's Girls') imparts the theory of education as a lecturer at Newcastle University, Mr Clark is at the cutting edge of salvaging something from inner-city schools, where the problem starts with low esteem, and low expectations.

"I'm not going to tell you we have X per cent from one-parent families, or that their learning ability ranges from point x to point y. That is irrelevant. I am not in the business of labelling anybody. I will not say, 'well of course you can't expect any better from our kids because . . .'.

"Look at our league tables: they relate to the school's previous existence, to the way it was managed, and to low targets. You have to manage resources more efficiently, before you can justify additional resources. And unless you change the way the school is managed, you have teachers struggling in the classroom against all the odds."

"Watch this space. In a few years' . . . I won't say we'll ever be Eton. But I wouldn't want to teach there anyway. Anyone can teach at Eton."

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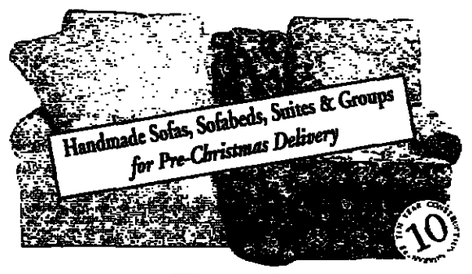
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OPENING SOON IN OXFORD & CHESTER

Philip Howard



■ Forward with poetry! But we must not allow children to neglect the backward glance

Poetry lies all around us. This may not be apparent on the benighted scramble home after work. But there is verse from all quarters stuck up among the advertisements for toothpaste on the London Underground and the New York Subway. Anybody who goes to literary festivals will recognise the most popular question after the lecture: "Will you read my poetry?" And, with a sigh, the second most popular: "How can I get it published?" In the Rovers Return on *Coronation Street* (a shrewd follower of popular fashion to have survived so long), they are giving a prize of £100 for the best poem written on the back of a beer mat.

This week Carol Ann Duffy won the £10,000 Forward Poetry Prize, poetry's equivalent of the Booker, with a collection called *Mean Time*. To hint that she has the hard stuff, here is the beginning of "Valentine":

> Not a red rose or a satin heart.
> I gave you an onion.
> It is a moon wrapped in
> brown paper.
> It promises light
> like the careful undressing of
> love . . .

The inventor and funder of the Forward prize, Will Sieghart, publishes a selection of the year's best poems, and distributes a free copy to every school. He says he cannot think of a more interesting picture of contemporary life than his book.

> Writing and judging poetry is now more subjective

But if poetry is really so popular, why are there no truly celebrated living poets? Why does no poem make a poet famous overnight, as the publication of the first cantos of *Childe Harold* did Byron? One reason is that nobody these days knows a poet is alive until he or she is dead. Another explanation is that generally speaking great poets this century seem to come single spies, not in battalions — once a generation if we are lucky. Betjeman apart, one of the last times a book of new poetry became a massive bestseller was with the serial publication of Eliot's *Four Quartets*, at a time of the breaking of nations, which may be a good time for serious reading.

Poetry has become democratised and split into a thousand sects. Where the bards of the tribe were once a sacred élite, in the modern world everybody has a go at it — which is good for them, though not necessarily for their readers. Poetry is not a television game-show, at which Everyman and his Mrs can become experts for ten minutes. And there is less agreement than there used to be about what makes poetry. It comes in all shapes, and none of them has a monopoly.

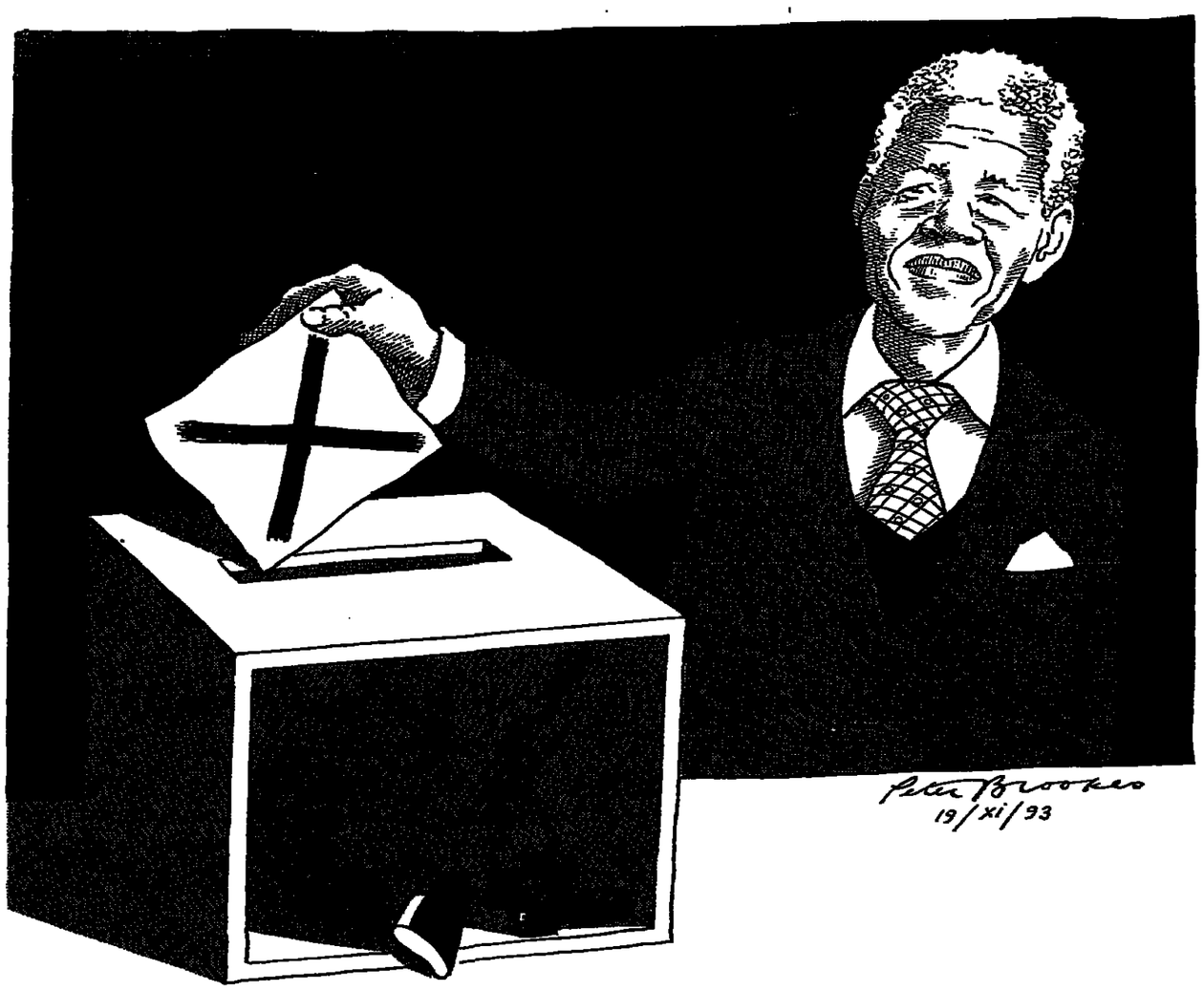
Roses are red, / Violets are blue, / If a poem doesn't rhyme or scan, / Some people think that it must therefore be more profound than one that does.

But neither is modernist verse necessarily less profound, or not poetry. The judging as well as the writing of poetry has become more subjective than when everyone agreed that Horace or Marlowe was the pop star of the month. But consensus over time still selects the true poetry, as it always has.

Poetry is more widespread than the cynics suppose. Probably as popular as when middle-class couples received *The Idylls of the King* as an automatic wedding present. There is more of it being written than ever before, and even quite a lot of it published. The area of decline is in reading poetry other than one's own and that of one's favourite genre. Children no longer learn by heart or copy out by hand great chunks of the classics of tribal poetry, like Archie Wavell, who compiled his anthology *Other Men's Flowers* from gobbets — from Shakespeare to Tennyson — that he had learnt by heart at Winchester and other serious academies. Churchill, who never got on with Wavell's Wykehamist reserve, and sacked him from the North Africa campaign, shared his belief in committing the flowers of poetry to memory: "It is a good thing for an educated man to read books of quotations."

Pity the modern students who leave school unable to read Milton or Dryden because of the obscurity of the references. New teaching methods are more humane, and there are many more facts and figures and skills for modern children to learn. It is wonderful that so many of them are writing their own verses in their own language, instead of in the elegant obscurity of a learned tongue. But to deprive them of committing the best of English poetry to heart, and learning to write by copying it out by hand, is to cut them off from the greatest art of the tribe, and one of its greatest pleasures.

Even in the age of the word-processor, children who are not made to learn by heart and copy out by hand, Shakespeare sonnets, and *Kubla Khan*, and *Lycidas*, and "Ulysses", and the poems at the beginning of the *Just-So Stories*, and part at least of *Absalom and Achitophel*, and many more, are being starved of their English heritage. Contemporary poetry as self-expression is in rude health. And that is good. We should worry about forgetting the poetry of the past.



Unprintable conduct

At the start of the parliamentary session, MPs should face the damage done to democracy by their antics

Bernard Levin

John (call me Jack — it sounds more proletarian) Straw has come up with a most interesting piece of research, done for him by Benjamin Wegg-Prosser. I shall set the scene in Mr Straw's own words.

> A few months ago I was turning out some old files in my room in the Commons when I came across a collection of newspaper cuttings from my first year in the House — 1979. I was reminded by these of the extensive coverage then given to parliamentary debates, and of the relative frequency with which the contributions of backbenchers to debate were carried in the press gallery reports of the broadsheet newspapers. There was a serious effort then made to convey the nature of the argument across the floor of the House (and within each side of it).
>
> I contrasted this coverage with the treatment of parliamentary debates today. Even the Maastricht debates, of very high quality, and with an uncertain outcome, were usually ignored. I therefore decided to do some detailed research in the press reporting of Parliament.

Mr Wegg-Prosser clearly did his job thoroughly and correctly (though he must have swallowed whole barrelsful of strong black coffee as he fought off the ghastly boredom): he took a random but significant sample of political coverage on three days, respectively in 1933, 1953, 1963, 1973, 1983, 1988 and 1992, from *The Times*, *The Guardian*, *The Daily Telegraph* and the *Daily Mirror*.

> O horror! horror! horror! Tongue
> nor heart
> Cannot conceive nor name thee!
> Confusion now hath made his
> masterpiece!

For the truth is that between the first year of the survey and the last, the political coverage in these newspapers has shrunk, *mutatis mutandis*, almost to vanishing point. For instance, in 1933 *The Times* had daily anything from 400 lines to 800 on the subject and now has fewer than 100 lines, while *The Guardian*, way back in 1933, had from 300 to 700 lines of politicking, and now has, like *The Times*, not even 100.

That is a crude sample of Mr Wegg-Prosser's fine research, but it gives the picture clearly, even pointing out that in those bygone days anyone could have *Hansard* daily for the price of two Mars bars. (In 1970, *Hansard* cost 12p; it cost 40p in 1979. Today it costs an almost incredible — and entirely scandalous — £7.50. Who is ripping off the people who want — or need for their work — the only complete record of parliamentary proceedings, and who is going to stop it, and when?)

But now we can leave the statistics and turn to the man on the Clapham omnibus.

Mr Straw says, after surveying the facts, that, "This serious decline in the coverage of parliamentary debate is bound to have an adverse effect on the public's understanding of their system of democratic government." He goes on, in sonorous tones, thus:

> The only alternative to politics is violence. All societies face conflict . . . Societies achieve relative peace and harmony not by denying their potential for conflict, but by resolving conflict through the political process. At the heart of that process is argument. The success of argument arises not from the volume with which a case is made, but from its inherent strength, from being tested by questioning, by probing, especially from those whose starting point is the opposite point of view. Nations only gradually acquire the ability to argue. Without it, effective democracy is impossible.

More than 20 years ago, I was for a time a parliamentary correspondent: my job was to listen to the debates, and write about them — a combination of quoting the MPs and commenting upon what they said. When the cry of "Who goes home?" resounded through the Commons, I got into the habit of mingling with the people who had been sitting in the public gallery. Almost without exception, the talk among the innocents was of the singularly bad manners of the MPs. On many of the faces emerging from the House there was real disgust, and even shock, at the braying and yelling, the pointing and jabbering and thigh-slapping, the talking and shouting over the member who ostensibly had the floor. True, many of the ones who were making the racket were drunk, though that may be thought worse rather than better. (Anyway, nothing much has changed in that particular.)

I reminisce thus because Mr Straw's powerful argument takes no cognisance of the way the public all too frequently see their legislators. And no wonder; if such behaviour was commonplace 20 years ago, it certainly hasn't got any better now. (When live television entered the chamber, I thought all that would change, but it hasn't.)

Still, Mr Straw can argue that the quality of the members is not what the research findings are about. The findings, as he see them, constitute a dereliction of duty on the part of the newspapers. There they are, the MPs, making speeches of tremendous importance, cogency and originality, and there are the newspapers, ignoring the lot and stuffing their pages with frightful people like me. (To say nothing of stuffing their pages with luscious bare bosoms.)

Mr Straw has a good case, but there is a gigantic hole in it. A man in his position should surely know that newspapers, like butchers, bakers and candlestick-makers, give their customers what their customers want. It is no use publishing a thousand square inches of newsprint all covered with what Mr Straw wants to read if the nation as a whole does *not* want Mr Straw's thousand square inches. I do assure him, though he won't believe me, that the newspaper's pabulum is fed to those who want to eat it, and if they did not want to eat it it would not be on the menu. He may reply that there is a duty laid upon the newspapers to serve such important fodder, but if that idea gets a hold, there won't be any newspapers anyway, which he would presumably think even worse.

But there is another argument. Who were the people who made democracy into a bear-garden? Who were they who wearied the nation with banalities, trivialities, personalities? Who were the louts and buffoons who so sickened the nation — and sickened it in its very heart, the House of Commons? Assuredly, it was not the newspapers, and no amount of finger-pointing will make it so. If the House of Commons wants to go back to the days when there were anything up to 800 lines of politics every weekday, the House of Commons will have to earn the respect of those days.

Come; what odds will Mr Straw give me against such days coming back? And coming back, mind, not because some iron rule from on high demands it, but because the public, seeing the grave, solemn, wise, polite, good-hearted, generous men and women of the House of Commons, have turned as one to their newspapers, and demanded that from now on every majestic word spoken in Parliament should be recorded, on a special set of pages.

I can wait. I hope Mr Straw can, too.

Good news for Major

Tory prospects are improving, says

Peter Riddell

The Queen's Speech is more than just the ceremonial start of the new parliamentary year. It is primarily intended to mark the relaunch of the government, and of John Major: as one cabinet minister said yesterday, "drawing a line under past divisions over Maastricht and providing a basis for political recovery".

What was put forward is half a strategy. The other half will come in the Budget on Tuesday week. The programme is "back to basics" fleshed out. No matter that the slogan was not even whispered around Downing Street when the cabinet's legislative committee decided most of the contents of the speech. Stripped of all the moralistic talk about single mothers, "back to basics" offers a more coherent theme: Mr Major's "commonsense/ordinary man" approach in, for instance, law and order and education.

The programme not only conveys the impression of activity, it should also unite the Conservative party. The only measure that might revive past splits is the bill increasing the upper limit of the European Community's budget, following the decisions of last December's Edinburgh summit. Otherwise, the government should not have many difficulties from its own side, apart from rumblings from some MPs about the privatisation of British Coal and, possibly most significant, about the bill tightening the rules on the availability of invalidity benefit (not mentioned yesterday but due after the Budget).

The Lords may present a bigger challenge, raising worries over the civil liberties aspects of the mammoth criminal justice bill and the increased discretionary powers in the deregulation measure.

How far this programme meets the needs of the country, as opposed to those of the Tory party, is more in doubt. Some measures are welcome. Action to clear up the anomalies and mess of Sunday shopping hours is overdue. The signs are that a compromise may at last end this long-running saga. The public is also clearly concerned over crime. But whether the criminal justice bill tackles people's fears of burglary and mugging, as opposed to appearing tough in a populist way, has become a matter of fierce dispute. Mr Major may regret describing the bill as the "centrepiece" of his programme.

This bill, like the deregulation measure, will amend earlier measures, in some cases several, introduced since 1979. As John Smith pointed out yesterday, the "back to basics" initiative is in part an admission of past failures. It could not be otherwise after 14½ years in office.

But the Tories' prospects will be determined less by yesterday's announcements than by the strength of economic recovery. The good inflation and unemployment figures of the past two days are healthy pointers. But the hurdle of the Budget with the £50 billion deficit has to be cleared. Big tax rises are already in the pipeline from last March's Budget, and there is no doubt that the November 30 package will include unpleasant medicine: cuts in spending and probably further tax increases. Cabinet ministers have a deep faith in Kenneth Clarke's miraculous powers as a political operator. "It'll be all right, Ken will sell the Budget" is a common refrain. If he does, the government may really have turned the corner. But, however dressed up, higher taxes have never been popular.

The morale of ministers, and to some extent Tory MPs, has improved since late summer. The cabinet is pretty harmonious, not least after completing a tough spending round with few rows. One senior minister commented to me this week: "We have a new John Major, self-confident, aggressive." Perhaps. Mr Major's standing has improved among his own colleagues, if not yet the public, and he is enoying a less hostile press, for the moment at least.

With Maastricht out of the way, Mr Major is more willing to take risks, as he is now doing over Northern Ireland. With the full support of his cabinet, he believes there is an opportunity to break the stalemate and to persuade the IRA to abandon their murders. Mr Major is not just going through the motions. He is devoting much time and resources to the initiative. The passages on Ireland both on Monday and yesterday were written on the day. Mr Major's determination was underlined by the announcement that the government is willing to press forward with its own comprehensive package, even if there isn't agreement from all the parties to resume talks — so killing the Paisley veto.

At the end of yesterday's point-scoring exchanges with Mr Smith, Mr Major confidently asserted "we are in government and we will stay in government". But there are several tests ahead for him as well as for the Tories, not just the Budget but the local and Euro-elections next May and June. These may easily reawake speculation about his leadership. If he can survive until the next Queen's Speech, he should lead the Tories into the next election. He is not secure yet, but the odds have started moving in his favour.

Rumour flourishes

THE TIMES DIARY

AS THE deadline draws near for the appointment of a new Head Master at Eton College, the word on the boys' lips is that the job has already gone to Ian McKinnon, the former Lower Master. With the confidence borne of impeccable connections, senior boys believe McKinnon, who headed the junior half of Eton until last year, has been picked as Eric Anderson's successor. "Why are you asking?" says one bemused sixth former. "Everyone here knows it's going to be Mr McKinnon."

McKinnon, a New Zealander who was head at Wanganui when Prince Edward taught there, and is now headmaster of Scot's College in Wellington, will not be drawn. "I would not wish to discuss in detail any discussions I might have had with Eton. I should say that, even from this distance, I have a high regard for Eton." He refuses to say whether he has been asked, but adds modestly: "I have not discussed the headmastership of Eton with the fellows. Quite why the boys are circulating my name I can't imagine."

Others are less reticent. Tim Card, vice-provost of Eton, while insisting that no decision has yet been made, admits: "It's no secret that he was a very effective Lower Master."

Other factors tell in his favour too. Since the announcement earlier this year of Anderson's departure for the rector's job at Lincoln College, Oxford, a number of top candidates have scratched. These include Tom Wheare, the head of Bryanston who once taught at Eton, and Martin Hammond, headmaster of Tonbridge. Ted Maidment announced to school assembly that he was not leaving Shrewsbury, and Michael Mavor has been busily assuring parents at Rugby that he will be staying put.

In all this, the boys' opinions should not be dismissed. Gossip, picked up from the dinner tables of some of the best-connected parents in the country, spreads like wildfire around Eton's narrow lanes. It's more effective than any press release.

New environments

SIR HUMPHREY and company are quaking in their shoes over their futures, as they await Sir Peter Levene's recommendations for a shake-up of Britain's 650 top civil servants. There are fears that Levene will propose fixed-term contracts and private-sector expertise, as demanded by former mandarin Sir Peter Kemp.

But the Humphreys have notched up one victory. They have seen off attempts to shift the environment department to Docklands. Instead, John Gummer is likely to announce a transfer from the hideous towers in Westminster's Marsham Street to another SW1 office block within the call of the Commons.

The only slight disappointment for Gummer concerns his ambition to press the button to blow up the old building. The Prince of Wales has already expressed his hope of having that privilege.

Fingerball

THE ENGLAND football team will, after all, be travelling to America next summer for the World Cup. But the kick-off will be replaced by a flick-off, for the squad consists of miniature plastic players and the pitch will be no more than a few feet long.

The Subbuteo world cup will be held in Chicago a week before the main event. "England will be represented along with the other home nations," says a spokesman for the game's Leeds-based manufacturer, Waddington's. "We are sending invitations out to all the countries that have organised Subbuteo teams."

Waddington's is working over time to ensure that the likes of Les Ferdinand, Paul Ince, Des Walker and Carlton Palmer are represented in the squad, for the English Subbuteo team currently has no black players. "We have people working on the introduction of black players," says a spokesman. And, presumably, on the deselection of managers.

● *One can only sympathise with Japan's agricultural attaché in London, Kozo Konishi. As one of the very few rural diplomats posted to Britain who practises what he preaches, he has taken on an allotment in Enfield where he plans to grow potatoes and peas. The cold snap, however, makes digging a problem. "The ground is very hard," he complains. "But it will be worthwhile."*

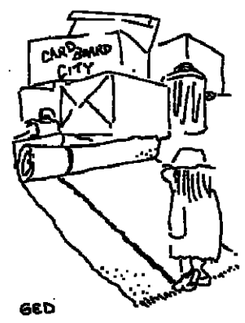
Tacky?

WHAT is happening to the BBC's "Aunty" image? Taki Theodoracopulos, the Greek millionaire who has made a name for himself by jetting across the world, philandering, writing a gossip column and being busted for cocaine possession, has been interviewed by Sue Lawley for *Desert Island Discs*. So much for the great and the good who usually form the Radio 4 programme's staple diet of guests.

Taki, who says he has "never heard the programme until now", says his prison sentence is irrelevant. "I believe that 75 per cent of all the press, and all politicians, belong in prison. I do not really think they are dragging me up from the gutter. At least I am not a hypocrite — I am Greek, remember, not British."

The BBC defends the programme, which will go out at the end of the month. A spokeswoman says: "He is an interesting person with an interesting story to tell. He has paid his dues to society — who are we to cavil?"

● *At the start of their new term yesterday, MPs were delighted to find they had a brand new carpet in the Commons chamber. Like the old one, it is green with red stripes to mark the sword's length between opposing benches. This time the red has been woven in rather than embossed. All very jolly. But a few spoilsports butted in to ask: what happened to the old one? No, it was not cut up and auctioned off, nor are sections gracing the front room of some official, we are told. It was simply chucked away.*



GED

You scored . . .

JOHN PATTEN and his band of ministers clocked up an impressive number of media appearances this week with publication of the schools truancy and exam tables.

Patten and his extremely impressive deputy, Baroness Blatch, were joint second with eight interviews on Wednesday. But easily the best score came from Eric Forth, the schools minister of ultra-dry views and ultra-bright ties, with 22.

Ideas man

AFTER a bout of harsh press coverage over his words about single mums, health bureaucracy and suchlike, the Welsh secretary, John Redwood, has finally followed the example of his cabinet colleagues and appointed a political adviser.

Welsh-speaking Hywel Williams, a former journalist, once taught the history of ideas at Cambridge. Mind you it's ideas that keep getting Redwood into trouble.

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هكذا من الأصل

PEER PRESSURE

Their lordships may prove harder to please than the Tory party

Commonsense values and "back to basics" are the perfect garb for a Tory leader in trouble with his party. With a slim majority and an unruly pack of backbenchers, John Major has decided to offer his MPs little opportunity to rebel in this parliamentary session. At the Blackpool conference, the new measures contained in yesterday's Queen's speech proved popular in direct proportion to their populism. Contentious proposals, such as London bus deregulation and privatisation of the Royal Mail, have been left for another day.

There may still be the odd hiccup. The bill to increase payments to the European Community could rekindle the passions spent over the ratification of Maastricht. And the privatisation of coal will doubtless remind the country and the Tory party of the brief spasm of support that Arthur Scargill and his miners won a year ago. The finance bill that follows the Budget will give backbenchers another chance to vote against the imposition of value-added tax on domestic fuel. But at least the heat seems to have been taken out of the Sunday trading debate. The last attempt to liberalise it precipitated Margaret Thatcher's only parliamentary defeat: home office ministers have since then trod warily round the subject, and this time will avoid embarrassment by allowing a free vote.

The biggest danger for the prime minister may come not from his own backbenchers but from another place. Peers tend to dislike populist measures: indeed some see it as their duty to curb the excessive zeal with which governments at a low ebb try to garner popular support. This is particularly true of legislation that has constitutional implications or which threatens civil liberties. Yesterday's programme bristled with such proposals. So the idea that this will be an uncontentious parliamentary session may turn out to be misguided. The harder Mr Major strives for party unity, the more likely he is to alienate the Lords.

Take crime and punishment, every Tory activist's favourite subject. Abolishing the right to silence may go down well in Billericay, but is the type of proposal that will infuriate most of the many lawyers and former judges in the upper house. The whole thrust of the Criminal Justice Bill, they will argue, runs counter to the Royal Commission on Criminal Justice, which was set up to help prevent innocent people being sent to jail. Since its findings were published, the government has done a somersault, and now seems intent on sending as many people to jail as possible. The Commission's main proposal, that an independent appeals review body be set up to deal with possible miscarriages of justice, has been ignored.

The other measure that seems designed to raise their lordships' temperatures is the deregulation bill. Not that peers are against the idea of making life easier for business. But they fear the constitutional implications of measures in the bill that will allow ministers to bypass Parliament in dismantling regulations that Parliament itself originally approved.

The prime minister will be relatively happy, though, if the most forceful opposition to his proposals comes from the second chamber. Yesterday's verbose performance by John Smith seemed to instil confidence in Mr Major, who replied in an uncharacteristically rumbustious style. Harsh words from the Lords, and even the odd unfriendly amendment, may be an irritant in the coming parliamentary session, but it is sticks and stones from his own backbenches that have most power to hurt. The prime minister has fortified himself as best he can from such an assault.

SAFER MINIBUSES

Rules governing the use of passenger vans must be reviewed

The tragic minibus crash on the M40 early yesterday morning which killed ten schoolchildren and their teacher on their way back from a school proms concert was a nightmare which every school and parent dreads. The specific circumstances of this dreadful collision between a school van and a stationary lorry are still unclear; final judgment must await full investigation of the accident.

Nonetheless, the crash has raised legitimate fears about the way in which this kind of van is used. The proliferation of the minibus has been the transport revolution of recent years. There are now 162,000 such vehicles on the road, the majority of them operated by voluntary organisations such as schools, charities and old people's homes. Privately-owned vans have offered a cheap alternative to hired coaches and made it much easier for voluntary groups to organise regular trips at low cost.

Nowhere has the minibus been more welcome than in schools, which can now offer pupils in-house transport for cultural visits, weekend holidays and sporting fixtures. As the education marketplace has become more competitive, some schools have invested in two or three vans as proof to parents that they offer a rich programme of activities outside the classroom.

As far as possible, regulation should not thwart the development of new transport technology and the liberating benefits it brings. But legislation must be constantly reviewed in the light of technological development to assess where it has become obsolete or inadequate. The rules governing the safe use of minibuses are deeply anomalous, drawing an arbitrary distinction between vehicles driven for hire or reward and those driven by voluntary groups.

Professional drivers must pass formal tests to obtain a passenger carrying vehicle (PCV) licence. Their vans are also subjected to more stringent annual maintenance checks. Non-professional operators, in contrast, may drive a minibus with up to 17 seats as long as they are aged over 21 and have an ordinary licence.

Much has been made of an EC directive which will come into force in 1996, requiring all drivers — professional and non-professional — to obtain a PCV if they intend to drive a minibus with nine or more seats. In practice, however, the new regulation will only apply to those who do not already have an ordinary driving licence in 1996 and will exempt vehicles "used for social purposes by a non-commercial body". This will have little effect upon the 92,000 minibuses already in use by voluntary groups.

There is a strong case for simplifying these regulations to require schools, charities and similar organisations to meet the same standards as professional operators. The difference between driving an ordinary car and driving a minibus carrying more than ten passengers on a motorway is considerable and should be recognised as such. One answer for schools would be to offer two or three members of staff salary incentives to become registered minibus drivers.

An alternative for smaller organisations would be to buy their own minibuses, but hire outside contactors to drive them. It should also be asked whether minivans with sideways seats are suitable for motorway journeys. Such restrictions might not have prevented the M40 crash; but that tragedy should certainly provoke a careful review of the outdated regulations which still apply to this growing sector of the transport market.

HAND SIGNALS

Your handwriting tells more about you than you think

The British Psychological Society yesterday ruled that handwriting conveys nothing about a person's character or personality. This debunks a superstition that goes back to the Romans, and comes as a blotted relief to scrawlers from doctors to journalists scribbling private shorthand. The doctors write illegibly to preserve their mystery and prevent their patients deciphering the banality of their prescriptions. The journalists claim, unpersuasively, that their original Renaissance fists have cracked and tangled under the pressure of catching hot news.

The death of graphology, just before the end of handwriting under the universal advance of the word processor, will disappoint romantic students learning to write. They experiment with different loops and characters to suit their images of themselves. It ought to shame firms of head-hunters that are using the pseudo-science to determine someone's suitability for employment. The psychologists say that it would be as scientific to select candidates by tossing their letters of application in the air, and seeing whether they landed with script up or down, or by the character of the manuscripts.

Nevertheless, a person's handwriting does convey at least identity. It holds a special place in society, being required for legal agreements. To forge it on a cheque is illegal. Like their fingerprints, their DNA, their idiolects, and, perhaps their voiceprints, no two persons' writing is the same. A tidy hand does not necessarily convey a tidy mind, but at least it performs the usual function of writing, by being legible. (Students writing answers to exams should try to write legibly, except with words they cannot spell.)

Much graphology is sympathetic mumbo-jumbo. The violence of the "B" in Bonaparte's signature and its terminal flourish cannot imply egotism. That is read into it from his career. Mozart composed with precise, sensuous tenderness, but it is a fetish to read that quality in the downstrokes of his autograph. Those whose writing slopes backwards are not necessarily social misfits, and a generous rolling hand does not proclaim a generous rolling nature.

But handwriting can signal a writer's nationality clearly, because of different script conventions. It may be sexist, but it is believed to be possible to distinguish the sex of a writer from his or her writing. There is a social paradox that those with the most illegible signatures are the angriest when their correspondents mistake their names.

A fine italic hand is a minor art form and a thing of beauty. In spite of the pedantry of the psychologists, whose hand-writing from Freud onwards has tended to look anally retentive, children should cultivate as clear a hand as they can manage, especially when writing job applications to Warburgs. To write illegibly is as inconsiderate to others as a hole in one's tights or egg-stains on one's tie. Those who cannot manage a clear hand must get a word processor. But for everyone else, the handwriting is still on the wall.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Mixed signals on single currency

From the Editor of New European

Sir, It is extraordinary that business leaders are now opposing the prime minister on the question of the single currency (report, November 15; letters, November 17) when such a short time ago they breathed a huge sigh of relief when he took Britain out of the exchange-rate mechanism.

In times of recession they cry out for devaluation. When times begin to look rosy, they pine for the apparent simplicity of the single currency. The only way in which they can both have their cake and eat it is with a common currency.

At the moment I have a French bank account which I use both for business and holidays. Most of the money in that account is used for transactions in France and I only change what is left at times when exchange rates are good. The money-changers make very little out of me.

If there were a common currency in Europe, I could have a European bank account and obtain the obvious wider benefits.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN COLEMAN,
Editor,
New European,
14-16 Carroun Road, SW8.
November 18.

From the President and the Director General of the Institute of Directors

Sir, Most British businessmen and women support the ideal of a Europe open for business. We share with our European partners the desire to see that ideal transformed into reality. But we also applaud the British government's pragmatic stance on plans for monetary union.

In the prime minister's own words in September: "The plain fact is that economic and monetary union is not realisable in present circumstances and therefore not relevant to our economic difficulties."

The problem with the present proposals for European monetary union is the method and timetable chosen by the European Union to achieve the single currency. Attempts progressively to lock exchange rates together in the ERM have undermined rather than enhanced the economic success of the Community. Not only is the method suspect, the legally prescribed timetable is increasingly unrealistic.

Therefore it would be much more helpful if politicians advocated measures to promote the use of the Ecu which could serve as a common currency. This would be a practical alternative with immediate beneficial effect for the conduct of cross-border business.

Yours faithfully,
YOUNG,
President.
PETER MORGAN,
Director General.
Institute of Directors,
116 Pall Mall, SW1.
November 17.

From Mr Michael Reid

Sir, I have been asking the CBI for years not to "paint a worse than necessary picture" in order to badger the Chancellor into doing what they want (Mr Gerald Coteman's letter, November 17).

It doesn't work, but businessmen all round the country often take note of gloomy CBI predictions and hold up investment — thus, in my opinion, making these predictions self-fulfilling and starting, in effect, a CBI-led recession.

There are about 22 million workers in the UK and only about half of these work for firms who are members of the CBI. How can the CBI be persuaded to stop spreading alarm and despondency? It was a criminal offence during the last war.

Yours sincerely,
MICHAEL REID
(Managing Director),
John Reid & Sons (Strucsteel) Ltd,
Reid Street, Christchurch, Dorset.
November 18.

Business letters, page 29

Top-heavy defence

From Mr Noel Falconer

Sir, The defence cuts have glanced off their proper target. After their implementation, the Services will deploy almost 200 front-line units, commanded in the main by lieutenant-colonels and their ilk.

Axiomatically, an executive should control at least four subordinates directly: with fewer, direction degenerates into interference. This means that around 50 colonel-equivalents, and 12 one-star officers, three two-star and a single three-star, are required, some 66 in all.

On July 1 we employed 1,895, in ranks up to five-star. With every allowance for support units and training and back-up and special duties, this is grossly too many.

And the cost is not merely their emoluments: these able, energetic people try to justify their existence by contributing to decisions, but complicate them inordinately thereby.

The upper echelons of the Services need to be cut not by a tenth but tenfold.

Yours sincerely,
NOEL FALCONER,
223 Bramhall Moor Lane,
Hazel Grove,
Stockport, Greater Manchester.

Spirited riposte on school report

From Lord Walton of Detchant and Sir John Cassels

Sir, We were eager to know what Simon Jenkins's verdict would be on "Learning to Succeed", the report of the National Commission on Education (details, November 16). What a letdown to see what he has written today ("Unwillingly to school", November 17). He says that the majority of our co-commissioners are educationalists, who "know how to roll a log or two". What rubbish!

Neither of the signatories to this letter is an educationalist. Our colleagues include three industrialists, an economist who worked for a bank, a QC and the former head of an independent secondary school. There are also the head of an inner-city primary school, a secondary head from Scotland, the principal of a college of further education and, yes, two university heads, a professor of education and a chief education officer. None of these can be regarded as members of the log-rolling classes. Also, of course, Sir Claus Moser, former head of the government statistical service, and a man given to looking at evidence critically.

Mr Jenkins says that British productivity is "moving steadily ahead of that of our competitors". Would that were so! He confuses the absolute level of productivity with the annual rate of productivity improvement, which thank goodness did rise quite quickly in the 1980s but from a comparatively low level.

He asks what detailed studies "demonstrate the productivity position. The answer is studies by the excellent team led by Professor Sig Prais (no log roller he!) at the National Institute of Economic and Social Research to which we refer the reader in our report. He throws in a lecture about Arnold of Rugby and the effect he had on English education. Our report deals with this bit of history quite as pointedly (pp 22-24).

Mr Jenkins says the commission is "salivating" at the expansion of Whitehall power. Why then do we say (page 343) that the rapid growth of central government power has in important respects undermined local accountability? Why do we reject the new quangos the government is setting up to fund schools, and propose locally accountable education and training boards?

Like practically everyone else in England and Wales we support the principle of a national curriculum, as he says we do, but we want it to be far less all-embracing than at present: no mention of that.

The link between education and economic growth is "notoriously elusive", we are told. We would point out, in some desperation, that chapters 1-3 of the report go into this very issue, stressing that industrial revolution did not take place because of education and training. The "knowledge revolution" which has now arrived cries out for both.

Finally, he says, the report can be reduced to one simple sentence: "Give us more money." How can he say that? Much that we propose needs no money at all, only energy and good sense. Some more money is needed, as we say, but from private sources as well as the taxpayer.

The increase in public expenditure would be £1.4 billion a year net by AD 2000. That is an increase of 4.3 per cent compared with £32.3 billion public expenditure on education in 1992-3; surely economic growth over the next seven years will make that possible?

Our verdict is: disappointing, Mr Jenkins! Some marks for sparkle; none at all for accuracy.

Yours faithfully,
WALTON of DETCHANT
(Chairman),
JOHN CASSELS
(Director),
National Commission on Education,
Suite 24, 10-18 Manor Gardens, N7.
November 17.

Playing truant and paying the cost

From Mrs Hettie Blagden

Sir, So Baroness Blatch, the education minister, thinks that all teachers have to do to combat truancy is to take a register before every class (report, November 12). The school in which I taught for 17 years practised this system for 15 of them, to no avail.

Truancy was condoned by parents who used their children as child-minders whilst the mother went out to work. The local education authority was reluctant to prosecute such irresponsible parents, leaving many teachers and education welfare officers frustrated.

One particularly severe case that I attempted to solve involved a child who had attended school for only one year out of five if one counted the number of attendances, and still the lone parent was not prosecuted.

Truancy could be solved almost overnight if we used the threat of withdrawal of child allowances to any parent who persisted in allowing their child to truant.

In nearly 20 years in education I did not know of one child with average intelligence who left school unable to read and write if they had attended school regularly.

Yours faithfully,
H. BLAGDEN,
20 Little Paddocks,
Chestfield, Whitstable, Kent.
November 14.

From Mr David Devore

Sir, My high school in Massachusetts was applying its computer (which probably had less power than the PC my son uses to play games) to the control of truancy 33 years ago. Students reported to a home-room every morning, where the teacher had a deck of IBM cards, one for each pupil.

Calling the register, the teacher would extract the card of every pupil who was absent. The cards would be sent to the school office and by the beginning of the second period, the school office would have compiled, mimeographed and distributed an absentee list to all teachers in the school.

Every teacher would take attendance at the beginning of every class and any discrepancies with the list would be reported to the school office. After lunch, pupils would return to their home-room, where the register would be taken again. Any amendments to the morning list would be compiled, mimeographed and distributed again.

Although this did not stop all pupils from cutting classes, it certainly made it more difficult. It also made the school administration aware of who was missing lessons (for all reasons) and how often.

If all this could be achieved 33 years ago using computers that could only be found in a museum today, why all the fuss now? I believe that the problem is less one of technology and resources and more one of state of mind.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID DEVORE,
Devore Associates,
Social & Market Research,
14 Adam & Eve Mews, W8.
November 17.

From Dr D. Ian McCallum

Sir, I am sorry that Dennis O'Keeffe ("Making sense of absence", Education, November 15) did not expand on his reference to the "hypocrisy" of those who complain about academic league tables.

It may be reasonable to assume that league tables provide a measure of how well, or badly, local authority pupils perform. Unfortunately, education ministers have used these tables to pronounce on the quality of the educational competence of local authorities.

This is analogous to a headmaster castigating a teacher of disadvantaged pupils for not achieving the same success rate as teachers allocated pupils from the academic stream. Such judgments would clearly be founded on a false premise.

Complaints about league tables do not arise from "hypocrisy", but from a deep sense of injustice. In one London LEA, more than 80 per cent of pupils use English as the main language spoken at home. This contrasts with another in which the corresponding figure is less than 45 per cent. Many other characteristics could be cited which contribute to some authorities having greater problems to cover than others in order to achieve the same level of educational success.

Our own research indicates that as much as 30 per cent of the differences in published league table ranks could correspond to differences in the proportions of adults in professional and managerial positions. Whilst this is the case, academics and LEAs have a legitimate grievance against the government's misuse of its figures.

Yours sincerely,
D. IAN McCALLUM
(Principal Research Officer),
London Research Centre,
Parliament House,
81 Black Prince Road, SE1.
November 15.

Farming grumbles

From Mr Christopher Moore

Sir, The producers of *The Archers* — 15 minutes twice daily during the week and one hour on Sunday — have long recognised the decline of the farming industry (letters, November 8 and 13). They have successfully changed it from An Everyday Story of Countryfolk to a daily bulletin of current medical matters, interesting legal cases and developments in community care, as well as child safety, European relations and the world of commerce.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER MOORE,
49 Linden Road, Gillingham, Kent.

Happy landing

From Mr Alan Witt

Sir, Last week I travelled from Italy on an impeccable British Airways flight which arrived at Gatwick 15 minutes early. Smiling immigration officials held us up for a couple of seconds and our cases arrived as we did. An NCP bus was waiting to take me to the long-term car park and I was in my car at the scheduled landing time.

Will someone please tell me what I am doing wrong.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN WITT,
Rosebank, The Hill,
Charing, Ashford, Kent.
November 17.

Making best use of Crown courts

From Mr Brian Cooke

Sir, Mr John Bowker, chairman of the Institute of Barristers' Clerks, alleges (letter, November 16) that courts in the south-eastern circuit are standing idle because of an insufficiency of funds to pay for judges and recorders. This is not true.

The real reason why there has been some reduction in the number of Crown court sittings in some parts of the circuit is because there have been fewer committals for trial.

Across the circuit the number of committals for trial dropped by over 20 per cent in the first four months of this financial year compared to the corresponding period in the previous year. The planned reduction in sittings, however, is substantially less than the reduction in cases. In the present financial year we plan to reduce the number of Crown court sittings by about 8 per cent, compared to the number of sittings last year.

This has meant that some courtrooms are not in use. Often, however, it means that they can be used for family and civil cases, including many involving children, which are frequently more urgent than many criminal cases. Today, for instance, only six of the 58 courtrooms mentioned in Mr Bowker's letter are not in use.

Finally, the court centre which is fixing cases as far ahead as next May is not doing so because of the volume of work: it is because of the need for serious cases to be heard by High Court judges or particular circuit judges, or because of the unavailability of counsel. Cases which do not have these difficulties can be heard much more quickly.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN COOKE
(South Eastern Circuit Administrator),
Lord Chancellor's Department,
New Cavendish House,
18 Maltravers Street, WC2.
November 16.

Football fan's death

From Mr Tim Rodda

Sir, In some of your earlier editions today, headed "Fan killed by rocket fired across World Cup pitch", you report that fans were seen before the kick-off of the Wales-Romania match carrying 5ft tall rockets into the Cardiff Arms Park stadium. If that is to be believed, whoever was responsible for letting these fans into the ground, carrying what amount to explosives, should be the subject of a criminal investigation.

I thought sports grounds were trying to adopt an attitude of responsibility. What on earth were the officials thinking of?

Yours faithfully,
TIM RODDA,
9 Whipley Close, Guildford, Surrey.
November 18.

Sugar search

From Mr Simon Strickland

Sir, Now that the season for collecting sloes has all but passed, I find that one of the recipes for sloe gin recommends using barley sugar. An extensive search for the same has revealed only blank stares and artificially flavoured boiled sweets. Am I ever going to find barley sugar?

Yours sincerely,
SIMON STRICKLAND,
Marshside, St James's Street,
Dunwich, Suffolk.

Plant import control

From Mr John Parfitt

Sir, Mr Ross, of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (letter, November 13), prompts the thought that if Sir Walter Ralegh had been required to produce a "phytosanitary certificate" and an import licence we would never have had any potatoes at all.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
JOHN PARFITT,
St Andrews, New Street,
Painswick, Gloucestershire.

Naming Europe

From Mr R. V. Taylor

Sir, One answer to the delicate question of "Naming Europe" (leader, November 13) could be a simple change from EC to "Europa", thereby commemorating the victim of an unnatural union, grounded in myth, and suffering more bull than any mortal should have to tolerate.

Yours sincerely,
R. V. TAYLOR,
14 Waxes Close,
Abingdon, Oxfordshire.

From Mr Jeremy Rhodes

Sir, Regarding a suitable name for the supposed European Union, how about Fédération Internationale des Amis Socialistes et Conservateurs Occidentaux — FIASCO?

Yours faithfully,
JEREMY RHODES,
8 The Grange, 77 Nightingale Road,
Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
November 18: The Queen, accompanied by The Duke of Edinburgh, went in State to the Palace of Westminster today to open the Session of Parliament.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness drove in a Carriage Procession, escorted by a Sovereign's Escort of the Household Cavalry, and were received at the Sovereign's Entrance by the Lord Great Chamberlain and the Earl Marshal.

Guards of Honour were provided at Buckingham Palace by The Queen's Guard mounted by the 2nd Battalion Grenadier Guards and at the Palace of Westminster by the 1st Battalion Scots Guards.

A staircase party of the Household Cavalry was on duty at Victoria Tower, House of Lords.

Gun Salutes were fired in Green Park by The King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery and from the Tower of London Saluting Battery by the Honourable Artillery Company.

The Imperial State Crown, the Sword of State and the Cap of Maintenance were conveyed previously to the House of Lords in a Carriage Procession, escorted by a Regalia Escort of the Household Cavalry.

Her Majesty's Body Guard of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen at Arms was on duty in the Prince's Chamber and The Queen's Body Guard of the Yeomen of the Guard was on duty in the House of Lords.

The Ladies and Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting and the Pages of Honour to The Queen were in attendance at the Palace of Westminster.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh returned to Buckingham Palace and were received by the Lord Chamberlain and the Vice-Chamberlain of the Household.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness this evening attended a Concert at Buckingham Palace to celebrate the life of Ruth, Lady Fermoy.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Honorary Life Member, British Sub-Aqua Club, this afternoon presented the 1992 Duke of Edinburgh's Prize at Buckingham Palace.

His Royal Highness, President, later chaired a meeting of the trustees of Westminster Abbey Trust at Buckingham Palace.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
November 18: The Prince Edward, President, the Lord's Taverners, this evening attended the Young Lord's Taverners' Masked Ball at Simpson's-in-the-Strand, 100 Strand, London WC2.

Mrs Richard Warburton was in attendance.

CLARENCE HOUSE
November 18: Lieutenant-Colonel Michael Bromley Gardner today had the honour of being received by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Colonel-in-Chief, The Queen's Royal Hussars (The Queen's Own and Royal Irish), upon relinquishing his appointment as Commanding Officer of The Queen's Own Hussars.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
November 18: The Prince of Wales this morning received Lord Morris of Castle Morris (Chairman, The Prince of Wales's Institute of Architecture).

His Royal Highness later opened the new Day Centre, Trinity Hospice, 30 Clapham Common North Side, London SW4.

The Prince of Wales this afternoon visited the Food from Britain Speciality Food Promotion at Selfridges Food Hall, London W1. Commander Robert Fraser RN was in attendance.

His Royal Highness this evening held a Concert at Buckingham Palace to celebrate the life of Ruth, Lady Fermoy.

The Princess of Wales attended the Concert.

KENSINGTON PALACE
November 18: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon today visited Derbyshire and was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Derbyshire (Colonel Sir Peter Hilton).

Her Royal Highness attended a Luncheon in aid of the "Spirit of Normandy" Appeal, to mark the 50th Anniversary of the Battle for Normandy Campaign, at the Lee Wood Hotel, Buxton.

The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, Grand President (St John Ambulance), this afternoon attended the Grand Prior's First Aid Competition for St John Ambulance, at the Pavilion Gardens, Buxton. The Hon Mrs Whitehead was in attendance.

The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon was present this evening at a Concert at Buckingham Palace to celebrate the life of Ruth, Lady Fermoy.

KENSINGTON PALACE
November 18: The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester were present this morning at the State Opening of Parliament.

This afternoon His Royal Highness presented the 1993 Office of the Year Awards, Trinity House, London EC1.

This evening The Duke of Gloucester, President, St Bartholomew's Hospital, and The Duchess of Gloucester were present at a Concert to mark the 850th Anniversary of the Death of Rahere, the Hospital's Founder, in the Priory Church of St Bartholomew-the-Great, Smithfield, London EC1.

Mrs Michael Wigley and Major Nicholas Barne were in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
November 18: The Duke and Duchess of Kent this morning attended the State Opening of Parliament.

The Duke of Kent this afternoon attended the launch of the military paintings of Terence Cuneo at the Imperial War Museum, Lambeth Road, London SE1.

Captain Alexander Tetley was in attendance.

The Duchess of Kent, Patron, this evening attended a reception to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Samaritans at St James's Palace, London SW1.

Mrs David Napier was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
November 18: Princess Alexandra this afternoon visited Cheshire and was received by the Hon Michael Flower (Vice Lord Lieutenant of Cheshire).

Her Royal Highness opened the Petty Pool Outdoor Centre of the Mid-Cheshire Sheltered Workshop Trust at Sandiway.

Princess Alexandra, Patron, later met representatives of the Vale Royal Branch of the Alzheimer's Disease Society and members of the Vale Royal Council for Voluntary Service at the Council House, Northwich. Mrs Peter Afia was in attendance.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: King Charles I, reigned 1625-49, Dunfermline, 1600; Bertel Thorwaldsen, sculptor, Copenhagen, 1770; Vicomte Ferdinand de Lesseps, promoter of the Suez Canal, Versailles, 1805; James Garfield, 20th American President 1881, Orange, Ohio, 1831; Tommy Dorsey, trombonist and bandleader, Shenandoah, Pennsylvania, 1905; Indira Gandhi, prime minister of India 1966-77 and 1980-84, Allahabad, 1917.

DEATHS: Nicolas Poussin, painter, Rome, 1665; Thomas Shadwell, dramatist, London, 1692; Theobold Wolfe Tone, Irish patriot, committed suicide, Dublin, 1798; Claude-Nicolas Ledoux, architect, Paris, 1806; Franz Schubert, composer, Vienna, 1828; Fitz-Greene Halleck, poet, Connecticut, 1867; Sir William Siemens, metallurgist, London, 1883; Edward Tolman, psychologist, Berkeley, California, 1959; Sir Basil Spence, architect, Eye, Suffolk, 1976.

Lord Tennyson became poet laureate, 1850.

President Lincoln delivered a speech at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, saying: "Government of the people, by the people and for the people, shall not perish from the earth . . ." 1863.

The Royal Fine Art Commission

Lord St John of Fawsley, Chairman of the Royal Fine Art Commission, and Professor João de Deus Pinheiro, the European Commissioner for Information, Communication, Audiovisual and Cultural Affairs, presided over the opening of the Exhibition "Preservation of the European Architectural Heritage and the European Award for Contemporary Architecture 1992" at 7 St James's Square, London, yesterday. Among those present were: The Right Hon Peter Brooke, CH, MP (Secretary of State for National Heritage), members of the Diplomatic Corps and both Houses of Parliament.

The exhibition is open from today to November 26 from 10.00am to 5.00pm excluding Saturday and Sunday. Admission is free.

Birthdays today

Lady Davina Windsor is 16 years old today.

Miss Kathleen Halpin, former chief administrator, Regions, WRVS, 90; Baroness Jeger, 78; Admiral of the Fleet Lord Lewin, KG, 73; the Earl of Lindsay, 38; Mr David Lloyd-Jones, conductor, 59; Mr Gerald Parsons-Smith, neurologist, 82; Dr Robert C. Smith, vice-chancellor, Kingston University, 58; the Ven Michael Till, Archdeacon of Canterbury, 58; Professor Dame Margaret Turner-Warwick, former president, Royal College of Physicians, 69.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, will visit Winchester Cathedral at 11.20 and will open the new vistors' centre; and will open the new Hampshire Record Office in Winchester at 2.50.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as Patron of Egham and Thorpe Royal Agricultural and Horticultural Association, will attend a dinner at the Great Fosters Hotel, Egham, at 7.30.

Princess Margaret, as President of the Royal Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, will attend the Touch of Tartan ball at the Beach Ballroom, Aberdeen, at 8.25 in aid of the society.

PPP Bayliss Lecture

The seventh annual PPP Bayliss Lecture was given on Wednesday evening by Professor Alan Maynard, Director of the Centre for Health Economics at the University of York, before an invited audience at the Royal College of Physicians in London. PPP Chairman, Sir Peter Gadsden, was accompanied by Sir Richard Bayliss, Physician to the Queen (1970-81), after whom the lecture series has been named. Professor Maynard's lecture was entitled "Who Shall Live When Some Must Die?".

Archaeology

Garrison skeletons tell grisly tale

By Norman Hammond, Archaeology Correspondent

DRAMATIC evidence of the slaughter of a British garrison in America more than 200 years ago has been revealed by study of their skeletons.

In *The Last of the Mohicans*, James Fenimore Cooper described the fall of Fort William Henry during the French and Indian War in 1757. Archaeology has shown that much of what he wrote 70 years after the siege was close to the truth.

Sited on Lake George, sixteen miles north of Fort Edward on the Hudson, Fort William Henry (named after two of George II's grandsons) was in the front line of British defences against the French based on Quebec. It had 30-foot thick walls of pine logs and earth, laid out in a star-shaped plan on the lake shore.

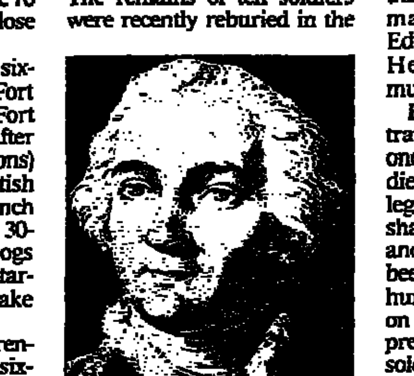
The 2,300 defenders surrendered, however, after a six-day siege in August 1757 by 10,000 French and Indians commanded by the Marquis de Montcalm, himself later defeated by General James Wolfe at Quebec. The French allowed their Indian allies to loot the possessions of the garrison, and they also killed the wounded in the fort. Some of the corpses in the cemetery were also dug up and scalped.

Although the graves were excavated 40 years ago, the work was never made public. The remains of ten soldiers were recently reburied in the presence of British diplomatic representatives. Forensic examination by Dr Maria Liston showed that the victims were mostly between 15 and 25 years old.

The stress of their daily life is reflected in herniated spinal discs and pulled muscles in their shoulders and legs. "This is not surprising given that they were carrying heavy material between Fort Edward and Fort William Henry like two-legged mules," Dr Liston said.

Her study also revealed traumatic injuries, including one soldier who may have died during amputation of his leg, another with his chest shattered by canister shot, and a third who may have been scalped. A fragment of human scalp was also found on a live mortar shell; it had presumably glanced off a soldier's head and landed upside down on the sandy soil, extinguishing its fuse.

☐ Source: *Archaeology* 46 No 6:42-46.



Montcalm: commanding joint force of 10,000

Forthcoming marriages

Mr C.J. Aspden and Miss C. Young
The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Mr Anthony Aspden, of Swanage, Dorset, and Mrs Sheila Plummer, of Old Hunstanton, Norfolk, and Carol, daughter of Mr and Mrs Graham Young, of Newton Mearns, Glasgow.

Mr S.R. Champion and Dr J.K. Mackay
The betrothal is announced between Stephen, son of Mr and Mrs Ronald Champion, of Meesden, Hertfordshire, and Jennifer, daughter of the late Donald Mackay and of Mrs Moyra Mackay, of Murrayfield, Edinburgh.

Mr M.J.M. Dove and Miss L. Moodie
The engagement is announced between Matthew, son of Dr and Mrs John Dove, of Penllergaer, Swansea, and Lynn, daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Moodie, of Kumalo, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.

Mr P.J. Lyons and Miss J.S.E. Kelly
The engagement is announced between Peter John, only son of Mr and Mrs D.E. Lyons, of Taunton, Somerset, and Joanne Samantha Esther, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs R.T. Kelly, of Meopham Green, Kent.

Mr N.P. Montgomery and Señorita M. Alonso De Basaldua
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Ion Montgomery, of Wimbledon, London, and Magdalena, daughter of Señor and Señora Fernando Alonso, of Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Mr D.A.J. Rayner and Miss A.K. Glen
The engagement is announced between Daniel, son of Mr and Mrs Stephen Rayner, of Hampstead, London, and Alicia, daughter of Mr Jeffrey Glen and Judge Kristin Booth Glen and stepdaughter of Ms Rosina Abramson and Mr Joel Krieger, of New York, USA.

Mr F.E.O.M. Saer and Miss E.C. Winter
The engagement is announced between Orlando, youngest son of Mr Albert C. Saer, of Dublin, and Mrs Sandra M.H. Saer, of Watersfield, West Sussex, and Elizabeth, daughter of the Rev Dr Bruce and Mrs Winter, of Cambridge.

Mr C.D.G. White and Miss S.C.M. Gray
The engagement is announced between Christopher, elder son of Mr and Mrs Tim White, of Heswall, Wirral, and Sarah, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Gordon Gray, of Stow, Lincolnshire.

University news

Oxford
Jesus College
Elections to Meyricke Graduate Scholarships: M. ap Huw, R.A. Jones.
To an Open Exhibition: R.L. Smith.
Magdalen College
Joad Raymond to be elected to a fellowship by examination in English. Frank Sengpiel to be elected to a fellowship by examination in physiology.

Buckingham
Honorary degrees will be awarded to the following at the graduation ceremonies in February 1994.
Doctor of Letters: Chief Eleazar C. Anyaoku, Secretary General of the Commonwealth; Sir David Steel, MP, former Leader of the Liberal Party. Doctor of Science: Sir Michael Angus, Chairman of Whitbread; Professor William Stewart, Chief Scientific Adviser, Cabinet Office. Doctor of Laws: Sir Patrick Neill, Warden of All Souls College, Oxford. Doctor of the University: Mr Terence Collins, Vice-Chairman of the University Council. Master of Arts: The Rev Jeffrey Bell, former Vicar of St Peter's and St Paul's Church, Buckingham.

Kingston
Honorary doctorates of science are to be awarded to the following today at the Barbican: Dr Jo Gipps, London Zoo director, Dr Peter Clapham, director of the National Physical Laboratory, and Robert Horton, chairman-designate of Railtrack.

Receptions

Prime Minister
The Prime Minister was host last night at a reception held at 10 Downing Street in honour of the Consortium for Street Children.

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association
Mr Colin Shepherd, MP, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association UK branch, and Mr George Foulkes, MP, joint honorary treasurer, were the hosts yesterday at a reception given by the executive committee at the Houses of Parliament for the High Commissioners and other representatives of Commonwealth countries in London and visiting Commonwealth members attended the State Opening of Parliament.

Inter-Parliamentary Union
Dr Michael Clark, MP, Chairman of the British group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, and the executive committee, gave a reception yesterday at the Palace of Westminster after the State Opening of Parliament.

Memorial service

Mr Francis MacGinnis
The Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs and the Permanent Under-Secretary of State and Head of the Diplomatic Service were represented by Sir Nigel Broomfield at a service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr Francis MacGinnis held yesterday at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Farm Street. Father Richard Randolph, SJ, officiated. Mr George Inge-Innes-Lillingston read the lesson. Judge Phelan and Sir Michael Newington gave addresses.

Framlingham College

The Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk, Sir Joshua Rowley, Bt, today opens a new science school at Framlingham College. This is part of a major development which also provides a drama studio, a new day pupils' house and fifth and sixth form social centres. Mrs J. Paul will also open Paul's Court which is named in memory of the late Mr R.H. Paul who was Chairman of the Governors of Framlingham College from 1972 to 1987.

Middle Temple

Judge Mohamed Shahabuddeen has been elected an Honorary Master of the Bench.

Dinners

Lincoln's Inn
Lord Oliver of Aylmerton, Treasurer of Lincoln's Inn, and the Masters of the Bench entertained at dinner in hall last night it being Grand Day of Michaelmas Term. Among those present were:
Lord Chorley, Lord Roskill, Lord Murray of Epping Forest, Lady Oliver, Lord Rippon of Hexham, QC, Lord Alexander of Weedon, QC, Baroness James of Holland Park, Sir John Vinelott (treasurer, Gray's Inn), the Hon Victoria Glendinning, Sir Marcus Worsley, General Sir Peter Inge, Alderman Sir Peter Gadsden, Air Chief Marshal Sir John Gingell, Lady Fell, Dame Felicity Peake, Sir George Blunden, Sir John Lyons, Tun Mohamed Suffian, Judge Kenneth Richardson, QC (treasurer, Middle Temple), Professor Malcolm Bradbury, Mr Francis Jacobs, QC, Mr Rodger Pannone, Mrs Mary Tuck and Captain P M Carver, RN (under treasurer).

Gardeners' Company
Mr E.M. Upward, Master of the Gardeners' Company, assisted by Mr N.A. Chalmers and Mr D.E.F Gollin, Wardens, presided at the Autumn court dinner held last night at Merchant Taylors' Hall. Mr Robin Herbert, President of the Royal Horticultural Society, Mr David Welch, Chief Executive of the Royal Parks, and Mr K.E. Way also spoke.

Institute of Indian Culture
Mr Michael Howard, QC, Secretary of State for the Home Department, and Mrs Howard were the guests of honour at a dinner held last night at the Portman Hotel by the Bhavan — Institute of Indian Culture — to mark Diwali. Mr Maneck Dalal, director, Mr Mathoor Krishnamurti and Mr Matthew Carrington, MP, vice-chairman, received the guests.

The Earl of Lauderdale
The Earl of Lauderdale was host at a dinner held last night at the Houses of Parliament. The Right Hon Sir Wyn Roberts, MP, Minister of State at the Welsh office was the guest of honour. Others present were:
The Right Hon Lord Boyd-Carpenter, Professor Michael Brady, M Christian Cléret, Mr David Dixon, Sir William Goodhart, M Olivier Guillon, Mr Keith Jameson, Dame Jill Knight, MP, Professor Peter Moore, Mr John Morris, M Michel Romieu, Mr Michael Sanders, Mr Michael Spicer, MP, and Mr John Townend, MP.

Chemical Industries Association
The Deputy Lord Mayor of Westminster, Councillor David Harvey, was present at the Annual Dinner of the Chemical Industries Association held last night at Grosvenor House. The principal speaker was the Right Hon William Waldegrave, MP, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Minister of Public Service and Science. Dr Keith W. Humphreys, CBE, President of the Association, was in the chair.

Service dinners

RN College Greenwich
Commander E.F.M Searle, RN, Commander of the Royal Naval College Greenwich, presided at a mess guest night dinner held last night at the college. Mr Roger Still was the guest of honour.

Fleet Air Arm
The Fleet Air Arm Officers' Association marked the anniversary of the Battle of Taranto at their annual dinner held last night at the Naval and Military Club. Captain Alan Leahy, presided. Rear-Admiral Ian Garnett, Flag Officer Naval Aviation, was the principal guest.

Gurkha Brigade Association
Field Marshal Lord Bramall, KG, presided at the annual dinner of the Gurkha Brigade Association held at the Cavalry and Guards Club. Brigadier M.G. Hunt-Davis, chairman, also spoke.

National Defence College (Canada)
General Sir Antony Walker was the guest speaker at the annual dinner of the National Defence College (Canada) UK Association held last night at the Naval Club. Sir Patrick Moberly was the dinner president.

Luncheon

Danish-UK Chamber of Commerce
Mr W.B. Harland was the guest of honour and speaker at a luncheon of the Danish-UK Chamber of Commerce held yesterday at the Danish Club. Mr James G. Davis, chairman, was host.

Appointments in the Church

The Rt Rev David Young, Bishop of Ripon, has been appointed chairman of the Church of England's Board of Education. He will also be Chairman of the National Society for Promoting Religious Education. He will take up his responsibilities on April 1, succeeding the Rt Rev Michael Adie, Bishop of Guildford.

The Ven Anthony Handley, Archdeacon of Norwich: to be Archdeacon of Norfolk, diocese Norwich.

The Ven Anthony Foottit, Archdeacon of Lynn: to be Archdeacon of an expanded Archdeaconry of Lynn (Norwich).

The Ven John Livingstone, Chaplain, Holy Trinity, Nice and Archdeacon of the Riviera: to be a Canon Emeritus of Malta Pro-Cathedral, and Chaplain in Biarritz, France (Europe).

The Rev Simon Aiken, Curate, St Anne, Heyhouses-on-Sea: to be Rector, Tidworth, Ludgershall and Faberstown (Salisbury).

The Rev Christine Browne, Parish Deacon, St Mary's Bulwell, Nottingham: to be Assistant Chaplain at Nottingham City Hospital (Southwell).

The Rev Nicholas Carter, Curate, Milton: to be Priest-in-charge, St Andrew, Boscombe (Winchester).

The Rev Jonathan Clark, Second Anglican Chaplain, University of Bristol (Bristol): to be a member of Core Staff Team, Southern Dioceses Ministerial Training Scheme (Salisbury).

The Rev Robert Cutler, formerly a Missionary with Interserve, Dhaka diocese, Bangladesh: to be Vicar, St Luke, Deeplish, Rochdale (Manchester).

The Rev Roger Dyer, Curate, Christ Church, Luton, and Minister-in-charge, Christ the King, Princes Park: to be Vicar, St Barnabas, Istead Rise (Rochester).

The Rev Canon Leslie Gready, Vicar, St Cuthbert's, Darlington and Rural Dean of Darlington (Durham): to be Dean of Bulawayo (Matabeleland, Zimbabwe).

The Rev Jonathan Greener, Curate, St Matthew's, Elephant and Castle (Southwark): to be Bishop of Truro's Domestic Chaplain (Truro).

The Rev John Hammersley, Industrial Chaplain, Metro Centre, Gateshead, and Rural Dean of Gateshead West (Durham): to be Director of Thamesway Programme, and Team Vicar, Langley Team Ministry (Oxford).

The Rev Canon Barry Lomax, Vicar, St John the Evangelist, New Borough and Leigh St John (Wimborne St John): to be Rector, Blandford Forum and Langton Long (Salisbury).

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BIRTHS

ADLER - On November 16th, to Jacqueline (née Pitt) and Thomas, a son, Max Alistair.

ASHMORE - On Monday November 15th 1993, to Sally (née Dunlop) and John, a daughter, Lara.

BASHALL - On November 14th 1993, to Gail (née Horn) and William, a son, Hugo William Beaufort.

FERGUSON - On 13th November 1993 at Southern General Hospital, Glasgow, to Allison and Kenneth, a daughter, Lorna Rachel.

HORN - On November 14th 1993 to Caroline and Francis a daughter, Georgina Sophie.

McNEILL-MOSS - On November 18th, to Caroline (née Davis) and Desmond, a son.

PITKIN - On November 9th, to Sue (née Tatchell) and James, a daughter, Katie Miriam, a sister for Eleanor, Fiona and Rowena.

PORTER - On 29th October, to Leila (née Assassa) and Alistair, a son, Charles Robert Campbell, a brother for Francesca, Melissa and Lauren.

PYM - At The Queen Mother's Hospital, Glasgow, on 8th November 1993, to Hugh and Susan (née Neill), a son, Jonathan Neill, a brother for Andrew - In Melbourne, Australia, on 12th November 1993, to Roger and Valerie (née Decaux), a daughter, Agatha Victoria - two new grandchildren for Caroline Pym, Malmesbury, Wilts.

RUDD - On 12th November, to Debbie (née Temple) and Philip, a daughter, Isabella Sophie, a sister for Alexander.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

FORBES:VICKERS - Lt. Patrick (Paddy) George Forbes RA (RWAFF) to Anne Stansfeld Vickers at Holy Trinity Church, Buckfastleigh, on November 19th 1943. Still at Beard's Farm, Buckfastleigh.

DEATHS

ACKERMAN - On November 18th, peacefully at her home in Brighton, Marjorie, aged 81, widow of Myron Ackerman of Chester Barrie. Burial in the United States. Memorial prayers on November 25th 6.30 pm at West London Synagogue, 33 Seymour Place, London W1.

ARCHER - On 15th November Henry Archer D.F.C., of Kew, Surrey. Most loved husband of Elizabeth (Betty) and dearest father of David, Robert and Elizabeth. Greatly loved grandfather of Peter and Sarah. Cremation Service at Mortlake Crematorium on Thursday 25th November at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to the British Heart Foundation, 14 Fitzhardinge Street, London W1H 4DH.

CLEEVE - Cynthia Helen, on Wednesday 17th November, peacefully in hospital following a stroke, aged 75 years. Widow of the late Brigadier John Cleeve, much loved mother of Richard, Gillian and Simon. Private family cremation followed by a Thanksgiving Service at St Cadoc's Church, Raglan, Gwent, at 3 pm on Tuesday 23rd November. No flowers please. Donations to the Injured Jockeys Fund.

de COURCY LYONS - On 17th November 1993, Islay, suddenly and peacefully in Thailand.

GORDON-HASTINGS - On November 13th in hospital, Dorothy Mary, aged 82 years. Beloved mother of Genevieve, Jane, Jim, Lulu and Pie. Also a much loved grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral Service at Golders Green Crematorium on Friday November 19th at 4.30 pm.

GRYSPEERDT - Peacefully at home on 17th November after a long illness, Dr. Gordon Louis, Neuroradiologist, aged 80. Dear husband of Norma, father and grandfather. Requiem Mass on Tuesday 23rd November at St John's, South Parade, Bath at 11.30am. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to The Dorothy House Foundation, 164 Bloomfield Road, Bath, BA2 2AT.

HARRISON - On 15th November 1993, Anne Lucy, aged 89 years, late of Barnt Green, Birmingham. Private funeral by request.

HENDERSON - On November 16th 1993 at home, Robert Douglas (Bob), aged 84. Husband of the late Stefanie Henderson (formerly Brundrit) and stepfather of Gillian Hacker. Will be greatly missed by family and friends. Funeral Service 12.30 pm Mortlake Crematorium Friday 26th November.

HEWLETT - On November 16th, peacefully at home, Edward aged 72 years. Cremation at Hastings on Thursday November 25th at 3 pm. Family flowers only, donations if desired to League of Friends St Richard's Hospital, Chichester c/o Mummery F/D, 31 Devonshire Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, TN40 1AH.

HODGSON - On 16th November 1993, peacefully at home in Aldeburgh, Dr. Arthur Ralph O.B.E., F.R.C.S., Emeritus Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery, University of Hong Kong, much loved husband of Monica and loving father and grandfather. Funeral Service at Aldeburgh Parish Church on Thursday 25th November at 11 am. Family flowers only.

KEHOE - On November 18th 1993, peacefully in hospital, Thomas, beloved husband of Eileen Mary. Funeral Service at St Martin's Church, Brackley, Northants, at 10.30 am on November 29th. Donations to Brackley Hospital Trust. Enquiries to W.J. Franklin & Son, High Street, Brackley.

LITTLETON-YATES - On November 14th, peacefully at The Mount, Beatrice Julia, just before her 90th birthday. Formerly of Edenbridge. Will be sadly missed by all who loved her. Funeral Service on Wednesday 24th November at 4 pm at the Tunbridge Wells Crematorium. Flowers or donations for World Wildlife Fund may be sent c/o E.R. Hickmott & Son, 41 Grove Hill Road, Tunbridge Wells.

MITCHELL - Edith Alma on November 15th peacefully. Beloved mother of Mary and granny of Gillie and Jo. Widow of the late John Henry Mitchell. Funeral Service at Mortlake Crematorium on Thursday 25th November at 1 pm.

MILLARD - Douglas Rodway, peacefully at home in Long Melford on 18th November the day before his 80th birthday. Much loved husband and best friend for over 55 years of Molly and loving father of Susan (Sherland) and Patrick and grandfather of Nicola, Sandy, Philippa and Rebecca. Bursar of Felsted School 1953-1978. Funeral at St Giles' Church, Great Maplestead, Essex, Tuesday 23rd November at 11 am. Memorial Service to be announced later. No flowers, donations if wished to St Giles' Church.

MOKRENKO - On Thursday November 18th 1993, peacefully at Stratheden Hospital, Cupar, Fife, Edward. Devoted husband of the late Doris Middleton of St Andrews. R.I.P.

MOORE - Douglas James Charles, Squadron Leader R.A.F. retired, also of Barclays Bank, Bristol. On 16th November 1993 at Bristol. Beloved husband of Ella and father of Michael, Susan and Andrew. Private church service followed by cremation at Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol, on Tuesday 23rd November. Flowers to C.R.S. Funerals, Westbury-on-Trym.

OWEN - On 15th November, Olwen Muriel, daughter of the late Mr and Mrs E.T. Owen of Northampton. Formerly Head Occupational Therapist at The Maudsley and Royal Bethlem Hospitals. Funeral at St George's Church, Bickley, Kent, on Friday November 26th at 10am. No flowers but donations if desired to U.N.I.C.E.F. Enquiries and letters to Miss M. Hunt, 25 Dumbrells Court, North End, Ditchling, Sussex BN6 8TG.

STAAL - On November 17th 1993, Cyril (author Geoffrey Wills) aged 81 years. Loved and loving husband of Jean and father of Caroline and Rosemary. Service at St Mary's Church, Callington, Thursday 25th at 3 pm. Donations appreciated in lieu of flowers for Callington Local History Society to C.P. Coombe Funeral Director, Glenmoor, Moss Side, Callington, Cornwall PL17 8AS, tel: (0579) 83349.

POTTER - Suddenly in hospital on 17th November 1993, after years of pain and stress borne with great dignity, Sir Raymond Potter, lately Chairman of the Halifax Building Society and President of the Building Societies Association. Dearly loved husband of Marguerite, much loved father of Anthony, Barrie, Christopher and Sarah and a loving grandfather. Private cremation. Service of Thanksgiving at St Mary the Less, Chilbolton, Hants., on Friday 26th November at 2.30 pm to which all are welcome. Family flowers only please, donations, if desired, may be sent to St Mary the Less for the Organ Fund c/o The Rectory, Chilbolton, Hants. SO20 6BA.

SAUNDERS - On November 16th 1993 peacefully at King Edward VII Hospital for Officers. S. James (Besher) Saunders T.D., F.C.A., F.R.A.M., late of Queen Victoria's Rifles. Dearly beloved husband of Paddy and stepfather to Fionnaigh. A man whose life was enriched by his love of music and his many friends. Service at Putney Vale Crematorium on Thursday 25th November at 11.30 am. Family flowers preferred to Leverton & Sons Ltd., Funeral Directors, 212 Eversholt Street, London NW1. Donations to Professional Classes Aid Council, 10 St Christopher's Place, London W1. Service of Thanksgiving for his life will be held at St George's Church, Hanover Square, London W1, on Tuesday December 14th at 12 noon.

SPAIGHT - On November 16th, peacefully after a short illness at Heather House, Batheaston, Bath, Elizabeth Margarita, aged 87. Service at Haycombe Crematorium, Bath, on Tuesday November 23rd at 2 pm.

TUCK - On 15th November 1993 at Epsom Hospital, John Gordon (Jack), husband of the late Mickie, brother of the late Peggy and the late Robert, uncle of John and Joanna, Michael and Simon. Cremation at 11am at Leatherhead Crematorium on Thursday 25th November. Donations, if desired, to the Appeals Section, Army Benevolent Fund, 41 Queensgate, London SW7 5HR.

THOMSON-WALKER - On November 17th, Philip Thomson Thomson-Walker, aged 81 years. Much loved husband of Betty and admired stepfather of David and Richard and their families. Private family funeral.

VACIAGO - Professor Alessandro, suddenly on November 17th in Washington D.C. Dear husband of Marcella, loving father of Barbara, Giovanni and Paolo. Former Cultural Attaché and Director of the Italian Cultural Institute. Fellow of Brasenose College, Oxford. Enquiries and messages to 39 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8NX, tel: (071) 235-1461.

WENGER - On 17th November 1993, peacefully, Mary, aged 83 years. Funeral at St Michael's Church, Aston-by-Stone, Staffs., at 12 noon on Wednesday 24th November. Family flowers only.

WILLIAMSON - On November 17th 1993, peacefully at home, Margot, widow of George, much loved mother of Janet, Susan, Tessa and the late Andrew and proud grandmother of her eight grandchildren. Sadly missed by family and friends. Funeral at The Chilterns Crematorium, Amersham, on Tuesday November 23rd at 12.30 pm. All friends welcome. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, to Myasthenia Gravis Association, Keynes House, 77 Nottingham Road, Derby.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

HALE - Suzanne Mary, late of Plas Gwyn Cottage, Hereford. A Memorial Service will be held at 11.30 am on Saturday November 27th at Hereford Cathedral.

SEALY - A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Dr. E.H. Sealy (Ed) will be held on Friday 26th November at 1 pm at All Saints Church, Crondall, Hampshire. The family will welcome all his friends. Family flowers only. Donations to Save the Children Fund, c/o Mrs Potter, Townsend House, Dippenhall Street, Crondall, GU10 5PE.

HALSE - A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Brigadier Richard Clarence Halse will be held in St Mary Abbots Church, Kensington, on Friday 3rd December 1993 at 11.50 am.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

CHICHESTER - James John 1897-1968, dearly loved and remembered.

GREENSHAW - Ellen. Dearly loved and deeply missed. Alan.

WOODS - J.A. Always remembered. Sally.

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OBITUARIES

GEOFFREY COATES

Geoffrey Coates, consulting engineer, died in Wargrave, Berkshire, from cancer on November 12 aged 68. He was born on December 7, 1924.



TALL, courteous and urbane, Geoffrey Coates had the air of a member of the Diplomatic Service. He was, in fact, a distinguished civil engineer who reached the very top of his profession, and proved to be an effective mouthpiece for an industry with its finger on the pulse of world development (last year the value of overseas work in the hands of British consultants was £60 billion).

Coates spent almost his entire professional life with the firm of Sir Alexander Gibb & Partners, one of Britain's top engineering consultants, which he first joined after the second world war, and of which he was made chairman in 1988.

Geoffrey Hamilton Coates was born in the Rowntree village of New Earswick in North Yorkshire. His father was the box mill manager at Rowntree and, at the age of ten, Coates was awarded the Joseph Rowntree scholarship, thus enabling him to attend the Quaker school, Bootham.

He graduated from Manchester University at the age of 19 with a degree in civil and mechanical engineering. Then, in the thick of the second world war, he joined the Fleet Air Arm as an engineer officer. He considered staying on in the Navy in peacetime, but opted instead for a career in civil engineering and joined Sir Alexander Gibb & Partners in 1948, an association that would last for the next 44 years.

Having gained entry into the institutions both of Civil Engineers and of Structural Engineers, Coates was sent to cut his teeth as resident engineer for the construction of the AEI turbine factory at Larne in Northern Ireland and of the Gallagher cigarette factory at Ballymena. This led, in 1959, to a spell in Canada, where Coates investigated and reported on a well-publicised grain silo collapse.

Two years later, in charge of his own design office in London, he was sent to set up an office in Khartoum as part of his company's expansion into newly-independent Africa. The time was just right for a while — Khartoum was full of people from the cotton trade who had just left Egypt following Nasser's coming to power, and the city was crawling with Greeks, Britons, Lebanese and Austrians.

Coates's main job there was the Roseires Dam on the Blue Nile, but he was also seeking a closer tie with a local architect to bid for building work, and found such partnership with Aleco Petermuller with whom he formed the practice of Gibb Petermuller & Partners. Business flourished, but by 1966 they were forced out of the country as the economy heated up and eventually boiled over.

Coates and Gibb immediately reopened the firm from scratch in Athens. This was very much a new, separate company from Sir Alexander Gibb & Partners, financially speaking and in every other way, and after eight years of frenetic activity, Coates had managed to carve out a sizeable proportion of the market and his staff had grown from three to 150. Finished designs included airports at Benina, Tripoli, Nairobi, Bahrain and Abidjan, the Tobruk naval base and harbours, and roads in Syria, Sudan, Oman and Abu Dhabi. Coates was prepared to spend the rest of his career abroad, but was recalled to Gibb's head office in Reading to take up a partnership in 1974.

His particular areas of responsibility there were, as before, airports, roads, harbours and defence projects. He became a partner in the company's practices in Kenya, Malawi, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Fiji and Hong Kong among others, and set about restructuring the firm in the mid-1980s. This led, in 1989, to its official merger with (effectively, a takeover by) the giant North American Law Companies Group. Coates, who was made chairman of Sir Alexander Gibb & Partners in 1988, announced this would give them a flying start into the next century.

Engineering consultancy had changed much over the past decade, and Coates tried his best to make sure that the changes were orderly. In 1978 he was elected to the council of the UK Association of Consulting Engineers being made its chairman, 1988-89, and in 1991 he was made president of the Federation Internationale des Ingénieurs Conseils. His leadership of both was marked by a determination to steer the profession through troubled waters during a period in which the industry was under increasing pressure to work out some sort of coherent environmental policy. He was a fellow of many professional bodies, including the Royal Academy of Engineering and the Royal Society of Arts.

Geoffrey Coates could appear somewhat aloof on first meeting, but on further acquaintance proved to be a very warm man, friendly but never familiar with his colleagues, and popular within the profession. He retired earlier this year through ill health.

In 1952 he married Helen Kay Mackay. She died in 1986, and he is survived by his son and daughter.

O. S. TUBBS

Oswald Sydney Tubbs, FRCS, Consulting Surgeon in Cardiothoracic Surgeon at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, died on November 12 aged 85. He was born on March 21, 1908.

OSWALD TUBBS was one of the outstanding team of thoracic surgeons who brought such lustre to British surgery in the post-1945 era. While he was thoracic surgeon at St Bartholomew's Hospital his unit acquired a national reputation, and when direct surgery, as it is known, was introduced, he was one of the first in the field, much of his clinical work being based on careful experimental work carried out in the laboratories at St Bartholomew's.

Oswald Sydney Tubbs was educated at Shrewsbury School, Caius College, Cambridge, and St. Bartholomew's Hospital. He graduated in 1932 and became FRCS in 1935. Among the appointments he held at St Bartholomew's Hospital was that of house surgeon to J. E. H. Roberts, a pioneer in thoracic surgery in Britain, and it was this appointment that decided the young man's future. In due course, he became chief assistant to Roberts and in 1937 he was awarded the Dorothy Temple Cross Scholarship for research in tuberculosis.

This enabled him to spend a year in the Lahey Clinic in Boston, working with E. D. Churchill, the outstanding thoracic surgeon in the United States in those days. On his return to London he was appointed one of the first surgical registrars at the Brompton Hospital.

On the outbreak of war in 1939 he was appointed a surgeon to the Emergency Medical Service in the St Bartholomew's unit at Hill End Hospital, St Albans, where, as things turned out, he was to stay until the return of his unit to the parent hospital in 1959. Here he rapidly acquired a high reputation as a thoracic surgeon, in various sanatoria, such as that at Papworth, as well as his own unit at Hill End. In 1946 he was appointed surgeon to the Brompton Hospital and a year later he was elected thoracic surgeon to St Bartholomew's Hospital. He retired in 1973.

In spite of his heavy load of surgical practice, Tubbs always found time to serve his hospital both as a governor and as chairman of the Medical School Council. He took an equally active interest in the work at the Brompton Hospital, where he proved a most efficient chairman of the Medical Committee and the Academic Board of the Institute of Diseases of the Chest. This double interest in the working of the two hospitals was a manifestation of his strong belief in the advantages of a consultant holding appointments at both undergraduate teaching and postgraduate specialist hospitals, contending that this was one of mutual benefit to both.

Oswald Tubbs married Marjorie Betty Wilkins in 1934. She died in 1976 and he is survived by one son and one daughter.

KENNETH HURREN

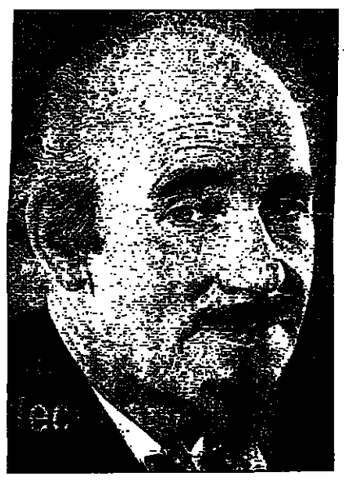
Kenneth Hurren, theatre reviewer, died in London on November 10 aged 73. He was born in Tynemouth on August 14, 1920.

IN *Theatre Inside Out*, the book about the workings of the British theatre he published in 1977, Kenneth Hurren included a chapter on critics. The one working for *The Spectator* between 1970 and 1976 was, he wrote, "notoriously wayward and plainly far too frivolous for the company he kept". What he did not add was that the critic in question was himself.

At heart, Hurren was not at all frivolous. By the time illness forced him to give up the task early this year, he had devoted a lifetime to reviewing: first on *What's On in London*, then on *The Spectator*, then on *What's On* again and finally, on *The Mail on Sunday*. When he described the theatre as "more vital, more important and more usefully creative than other media of entertainment," he meant it. The intelligent, well-crafted play — whether by Arthur Miller or Tom Stoppard — was sure of a warm notice from Hurren.

He wrote with passion of the productions he admired, such as the National Theatre's revival of O'Neill's *Long Day's Journey into Night* with Laurence Olivier and Constance Cummings, and with huge enthusiasm about such performers as Maggie Smith and Eileen Atkins. He regarded Wilfrid Lawson as the greatest actor he had ever seen, and defended that characteristically unfashionable view in characteristically robust style. He was among the first to spot the various talents of Dorothy Tutin, Donald Sinden, Peter O'Toole, Kate Nelligan and Ronald Pickup.

Kenneth Alwyn Hurren was the son of a railway official and won a scholarship to Westminster. He joined *What's On* under F. Maurice Speed as an editorial pupil in 1937, returning to the magazine in 1945 after war service in the Royal Navy. Hurren spent 25 years with *What's On* — six of them as editor. In 1970 he moved to *The Spectator* where during the following six years he was variously arts editor,



drama critic and associate editor before returning to *What's On*. He also wrote regularly for *Drama Quarterly* and launched a *New Yorker*-style literary magazine, *Topic*, but it foundered after three months. For the last ten years of his career he was drama critic of *The Mail on Sunday*.

If some regarded Kenneth Hurren as "frivolous" or "wayward," it was because he believed that self-indulgent and boring writers and directors were treated far too respectfully by his colleagues. He was not afraid to attack the "Higher Bosh" in the form of Peter Brook's celebrated productions of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *King Lear*. He felt that the prime business of a director was faithfully to discover and embody a classic author's intentions, and that what he called "look-at-me-I'm-directing" conceits were not to be tolerated.

He relished his status as a maverick, and with good reason. At a time when it was critically *de rigueur* to run down the commercial theatre and talk up the Fringe, his attacks on the earnest but dire provided a necessary balance. He wrote witheringly and often hilariously about "padded cellars" peopled by "actors who could never be bothered to learn technique" and "writers who decline to learn the formal disciplines of the craft". Lazy, pretentious work he regarded as an affront, and said so.

But if he could be professionally waspish — and, indeed, once wrote a showbusiness column for *The Spectator* under the name Will Waspe — he was personally the gentlest of people. Behind his pointed, somewhat Mephistopholean beard was a kindly, rather reticent man who liked the company of close friends and avoided the showbusiness crowd. It was only after 42 years membership of the Critics Circle that he somewhat hesitantly agreed to become chairman of its drama section. He did, however, use his term in office constructively, instituting annual theatre awards in 1990 that have grown in stature since.

Hurren was twice married. He is survived by his second wife, Ruth, whom he married in 1972, and by a daughter, the actress Bonnie Hurren.

JOHN BOWKER

Alfred Johnstone (John) Bowker, MC, Regional Chairman of Industrial Tribunals, Southampton, 1978-87, died following a heart attack on November 13 aged 71. He was born on April 9, 1922.

A MAN of fearless disposition, and with a keen interest in country pursuits, it was fitting that John Bowker should have died while out hunting with the New Forest Foxhounds. He was the son of Alfred Bowker who, at the age of 31 and as mayor of Winchester, had the statue of King Alfred erected in the city's Broadway. John Bowker's father was a solicitor and, as a director of Liptons, was sufficiently affluent to construct a curious house, The Malms at Shawford, with stones conveyed there from the old LMS Hotel at Euston.

John Bowker himself went to Winchester College and Christ Church, Oxford. He served with the Coldstream Guards in the second world war and in 1944 was awarded the Military Cross during the Italian campaign. On his demobilisation in 1947 he returned to his father's legal practice (Alfred Bowker had died during the war) becoming initially an articled clerk before qualifying in 1949. He was elected to Winchester City Council in 1954. He always enjoyed hunting and, while at The Malms, became Joint Master of the Meon Valley Beagles from 1954 to 1956.

In 1957 he gave up his home at Shawford on his appointment as a resident magistrate in Northern Rhodesia. He remained there until the country achieved independence — as Zambia — in 1964. In the course of his judicial duties he once sentenced a white man to a short jail term which was almost unheard of in the days of colonial administration. The sentence was overturned on appeal — an outcome which in no way disturbed Bowker who never desired popularity and refused to allow his judgments to be influenced by fear or favour.

On his return to Britain he resumed private practice in Salisbury. During this period he was for three years Joint Master of the Hursley Foxhounds and, although not aspiring to be a great huntsman, his kindliness led to his being held in great affection.

In 1957 he was appointed Chairman of Industrial Tribunals, Newcastle upon Tyne, where he remained until his final appointment to Southampton. After his retirement in 1987 he represented Lyndhurst New Forest on Hampshire County Council.

He is survived by his wife Ann, whom he married in 1947, a son and daughter.

KEVIN FITZGERALD

Kevin FitzGerald, author, raconteur and rock climber, died at Chinnor, Oxfordshire, on November 9 aged 91. He was born on June 19, 1902.

KEVIN FITZGERALD'S great distinction was as a raconteur and after-dinner speaker and it was this rather than his somewhat indifferent prowess as a rock climber that gained him the coveted membership of the Alpine Club. His fluency and articulateness also made him a first-class broadcaster and chairman of broadcast discussions for the BBC during and after the second world war.

At this time, on the original suggestion of Graham Greene, he wrote many thrillers, some of which, such as *It's Different in July* (1955), were highly thought of at the time. None, however, was as distinguished and lasting as his autobiographical *With O'Leary to the Grave* (1986), taking its title from Yeats and its subject matter from his businessman father who, if not as eccentric as Sir George Sitwell, certainly knew what he wanted and how to get it. He also wrote a history of the Farmers' Club and an impression of the Chilterns, where he lived for nearly fifty years.

His formal career, after training at Seale Hayne Agricultural College, Newton Abbot, and a preliminary stab at farming on the Canadian prairies, was spent entirely with Imperial Chemical Industries, which he entered in 1928 and from which he retired in 1962, having served for part of that time as the firm's general manager in Ireland. For ICI he wrote a great deal and travelled worldwide.

Although very conscious of his Irishness, he was in many ways also quintessentially English. He was twice married, the second time to Janet Quigley, sometime head of *Woman's Hour* for the BBC, who died in 1987. He is survived by the daughter of his first marriage.



JULIO LINARES

Julio Linares, Panama's foreign minister, died in New York following a heart attack on October 27 aged 63.

JULIO LINARES was appointed foreign minister in the government of President Guillermo Endara after the American military invasion of December 1989 which ousted General Manuel Noriega. He was a member of the Nationalist Republican Liberal Movement — one of three parties in Panama's ruling coalition.

Linares managed a number of crises in Panama after the invasion. In 1990 he expelled the Cuban ambassador, citing Havana's support for Noriega, and reduced diplomatic ties with the country to their lowest level. He also suspended relations with Peru following President Alberto Fujimori's dissolution of the parliament.

His tenure was troubled by demands for compensation from the families of those killed during the 1989 invasion.

Most recently, the Panamanian embassy in Barcelona was implicated in a failed attempt to smuggle Czech arms to the former Yugoslavia. The plan, which was uncovered by American, Spanish and Czech authorities, cost the jobs of three top Panamanian diplomats.

Linares was the author of ten books on law and foreign policy, and previously served as a deputy, a finance minister and Panama's governor at the Interamerican Development Bank.

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THE CYCLE SHOWS

THE STANLEY SHOW.

The depression which has weighed down the cycle trade for a year past has had no perceptible effect upon the annual shows. The Stanley Show, which opened yesterday at the Agricultural-hall, is larger than ever, and is outgrowing the huge area at Islington just as it outgrew first the Camden-town Athenaeum and then the Westminster Aquarium. There are no very striking features — no hint of anything that is likely to revolutionize the cycle as we know it. In all essentials, such as frame, tires, and general design, the machines of today remain as we have known them now for several years. Chainless cycles, which were made rather a feature of last year's shows, do not seem to have gained much ground. The chain still holds the field so far as the vast majority of makers are concerned. One of the cyclist's chief difficulties with the chain (this applies specially to ladies) is to adjust it when it has got either too tight or too loose. The Royal Standard Company are fitting machines with a simple adjustment, which seems to work well and give very little trouble. Another improvement made not long ago allows the chain to run while the rider rests his feet upon the pedals without working. Going down-hill this is a decided advantage. The Humber Company show machines made in this way, and they also have an anti-vibration handle, which saves the rider from feeling the worst effects of a bad road. Humber machines are all being made now with unbrazed joints, the tubes being fitted together by the method introduced last year. This method is specially suited to aluminium machines, which cannot be brazed (ie. welded together by heat). The Trent Company show some Pedersen bicycles, built on the cantilever principle. These still look very odd and ungainly, though the company have substituted for the "hammock saddle" a more reasonable-looking seat.

To the cautious cyclist the new Elswick brake should be welcome. This not only acts upon the tire of the front wheel in the ordinary way, but grips the wheel's rim as well. The Bowden brake, on the other hand, is applied to the rim of the back wheel, working from the handlebar by means of a spiral and slack wire arrangement. Another brake that works on the front wheel rim is that of the Whippet Syndicate, who also have a system of gear which can be changed as often as the rider wishes by means of the pedals. A second brake, worked by the rider's heel, acts upon the rim of the back wheel. This is an ingeniously contrived machine, but it is doubtful whether the ordinary cyclist cares much about a changeable gear. It saves trouble, no doubt, in going up hills, but the tendency, on the whole, is for machines to become less instead of more complicated.

The motor cars shown do not call for much notice. We have yet to arrive at a form of carriage which shall be at once serviceable and shapely. A char-a-banc shown by the Motor Manufacturing Company is better to look at than most, but so far the neatest conveyances of the motor class are the light parcel vans.

ON THIS DAY

November 19 1898

At this cycle show new methods of braking were demonstrated including a back-pedalling brake akin to a type that older readers may remember as first-class for executing spectacular rear-wheel skids.

THE TIMES TODAY

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 19 1993

NEWS

Major gives Ulster peace priority

■ John Major made his Ulster peace initiative the leading priority in the new government programme outlined in the Queen's speech. He again gave Northern Ireland precedence over his "back-to-basics" blueprint.

He delivered a warning to Unionists that they could not veto attempts to reach a settlement and made it plain that he was ready to table proposals without waiting for all the Ulster parties to agree to further talks ..... **Pages 1, 10, 11,**

Motorway crash toll rises to 11

■ An eleventh child victim of the M40 school minibus crash died last night as pressure mounted on the government for the introduction of legislation to improve safety. Ten teenage children and their teacher died instantly early yesterday when their minibus ploughed into the back of a lorry..... **Pages 1, 3**

Jobless total falls

John Major has hailed a dramatic 49,000 fall in the October unemployment tally as further evidence that Britain is standing at the threshold of prolonged prosperity. The latest monthly drop in the unemployment total is the biggest for four and-a-half years ..... **Pages 1, 25**

Cricket case dropped

Sarfraz Nawaz, the Pakistani cricketer, has withdrawn his libel action in the High Court against the England player Allan Lamb over alleged cheating. The case was settled out of court after a three-and-a-half day hearing ..... **Pages 1, 4**

Prosecution ends

Barristers representing the two boys accused of murdering the James Bulger said they would not be offering any defence evidence. The prosecution case ended after 13 days ..... **Pages 1, 7**

Howard has his way

Michael Howard won round one of a battle to undermine the power of the Prison Officers' Association when a court order banned them from taking industrial action next week ..... **Page 2**

Colour-blind justice

A High Court judge has claimed that the scales are tipped against black defendants at every stage of the criminal justice system. Mr Justice Brooke said "serious risks to justice are being created as a result of ignorance of ethnic minority culture"..... **Page 8**

Climate of fear

A survey suggests that NHS staff who complain publicly about standards may have as much to fear from their colleagues, who dislike people rocking the boat, as from management..... **Page 12**

Fascist bid for Rome

Giancarlo Fini, the neo-fascist leader, is expected to win 25 per cent of the vote in Sunday's mayoral election in Rome, enough to qualify for a run-off against the favourite, Francesco Rutelli, of the Green party..... **Page 13**

Clinton celebrates

President Clinton celebrated a famous victory on the North American Free Trade Agreement that beat back a rising tide of protectionism in America and sent his political stock soaring..... **Page 16**

Nigeria in suspense

General Sani Abacha, Nigeria's new head of state, was expected to address the nation last night after meeting senior military commanders..... **Page 13**

Bosnia aid resumes

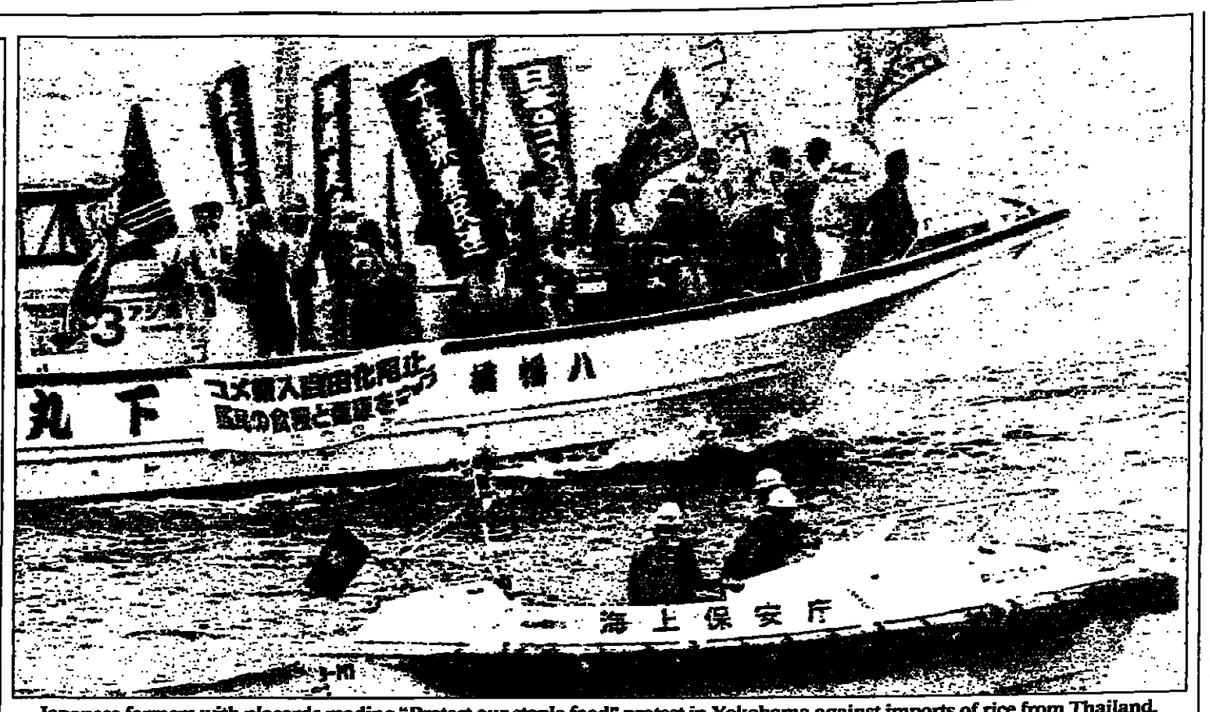
Aid convoys are expected to resume deliveries to central Bosnia soon after the country's three warring factions agreed to guarantee them safe passage. **Page 14**

Mandela campaigns

The ink had had barely dried on the agreement on the new South African constitution before Nelson Mandela set off for Durban to begin the campaign for next April's elections..... **Page 17**

The handwriting is off the wall

■ British firms who employ handwriting experts as part of their recruitment process are wasting their money. An assessment by the British Psychological Society has concluded that it is "mumbo-jumbo". "Companies will have just as much success pulling an applicant's name out of a hat," said Donald McLeod, who led the research ..... **Page 2**



Japanese farmers with placards reading "Protect our staple food" protest in Yokohama against imports of rice from Thailand, the first in nearly ten years. The 7,000-tonne shipment was the first batch delivered to make up for a shortfall after a poor harvest

BUSINESS

Jobless: The biggest monthly drop in unemployment for four and a half years caught the City off guard, but lifted government confidence after the recent dip in inflation ..... **Page 25**

Amstrad: Almost £60 million was wiped off the stockmarket value of Amstrad as shares in the company fell 20 per cent after a warning that poor demand will take its toll on profits..... **Page 25**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 Index rose 5.5 points to 3,125.5. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from 80.9 to 81.0 reflecting a slight rise from DM2.5235 to DM2.5249 and a slight fall from $1.4790 to $1.4787..... **Page 28**

SPORT

Rugby Union: Stu Forster, probably the smallest scrum-half among the major rugby-playing nations, is one of four new caps named in the All Blacks' team to play Scotland at Murrayfield tomorrow..... **Page 46**

Racing: After enduring a miserable start to the season, trainer Martin Pipe has hinted that the worst may be over as he prepares to send out the first of his stable stars at Ascot today..... **Page 45**

Football: "England's plight has seldom been worse, a failure in administrative principle, management policy and playing practice. The founders of football are in disarray" — David Miller on England's World Cup exit .... **Page 48**

FEATURES

Hong Kong Man: Are European corporatists too much Harrogate man to emulate the cutting-edge style in the Far East? Peter Millar on the prospects for permanent revolution ..... **Page 18**

MOTORING

Older drivers: Elderly drivers can be safer than the young. Vaughan Freeman meets a man who honed his skills at 80-plus ..... **Page 41**

INFOTECH

Doorstep revolution: Milkmen are carrying handheld computers to log orders and provide itemised billing — all part of the service. David Guest reports..... **Page 33**

ARTS

Opera house for 2001: A £500,000 grant from the Welsh Office has launched a competition to find the architect who will build the new opera house in Cardiff Bay. If all goes to plan, the theatre will open on the first St David's Day of the new millennium..... **Page 38**

Facing the future: Today the National Portrait Gallery opens its new galleries. But is the age of the portrait painter over..... **Page 37**

Swede inspirations: Twenty years after the advent of Abba, a parade of Swedes has again captured the British charts. From Clawfinger to Stakka Bo, Sweden is emerging as the dominant force in European pop ..... **Page 39**

PEOPLE IN THE TIMES



Michael Smith, who was jailed for 25 years at the Old Bailey on charges of spying for the Russians while he was employed by a defence company
Pages 1, 5



John Hill, who was killed by a 400mph marine rocket fired during Wednesday's World Cup match between Wales and Romania in Cardiff
Page 4



Lisa Budd, Britain's first woman boxing MC, who accepted an £8,500 settlement from Mickey Duff, a promoter, over alleged discrimination
Page 12

THE TIMES TOMORROW

The return of Roger

■ Roger Norrington, the British conductor who revolutionised Beethoven interpretation, recalls his own Beethoven-like struggle with serious illness. Now, he says, the old fires are rekindled

Riding to hounds in Virginia

■ Ben Macintyre goes hunting in Virginia, where the fox is often safer than the riders and an English accent can cover for a multitude of sins

Stand by your pan

■ Frances Bissell has the recipes for the best Christmas pudding and Christmas cake

TV LISTINGS

Far from being a nation of car lovers, we abandon 200,000 of them every year. *Short Stories* (Channel 4, 8pm) profiles an organisation trying to help ..... **Page 47**

OPINION

Peer pressure

John Major has decided to offer his MPs little opportunity to rebel in this parliamentary session. But the biggest danger for the prime minister may come not from his own backbenchers but from peers, who tend to dislike populist measures ..... **Page 21**

Safer minibuses

The tragic minibus crash on the *M40 has raised legitimate fears* about the way in which this kind of van is used. The rules governing the safe use of minibuses are deeply anomalous, drawing an arbitrary distinction between vehicles driven for hire or reward and those driven by voluntary groups ..... **Page 21**

Hand signals

The British Psychological Society has debunked a superstition that dates back to the Romans that handwriting conveys information about our characters ..... **Page 21**

COLUMNS

PETER RIDDELL

Stripped of all the moralistic talk about single mothers, "back to basics" is Mr Major's "common-sense/ordinary man" approach in, for instance, law and order and education ..... **Page 20**

BERNARD LEVIN

It is no use publishing a thousand square inches of newsprint of what Jack Straw wants to read if the nation as a whole does *not* want Mr Straw's thousand square inches. I do assure him the newspaper's pabulum is fed to those who want to eat it. If they did not, it would not be on the menu ..... **Page 20**

LETTERS

National Commission on Education members defend their report, *Learning to succeed*..... **Page 21**

THE PAPERS

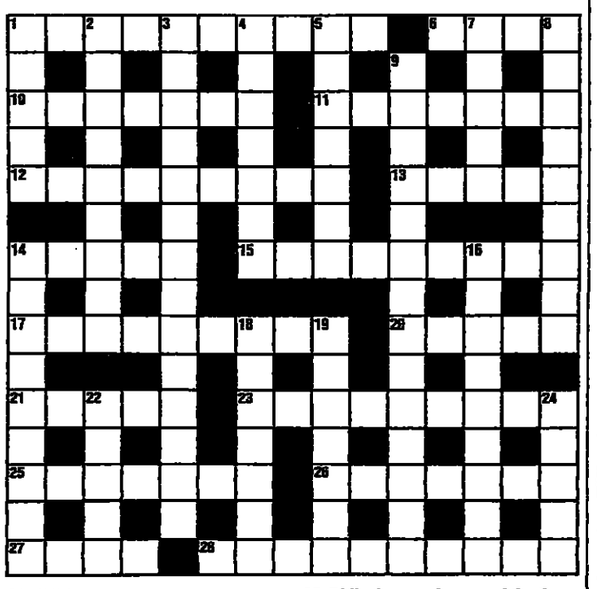
It should be possible to change the way people think about the family. Perhaps in practice government can only remove the perverse incentives that encourage family break-up but political leaders should confront this issue head on

— The Wall Street Journal

Nafta's passage by the House is a triumph for President Clinton but also a triumph for the country and its economic future

— The Washington Post

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,392



ACROSS

1 Note a leaning to become a Mensheyik (10).
6 On a trip far from the equator (4).
10 Fell upon city (7).
11 High-minded puritan drowned in a kind of milk (7).
12 Making improvements to inn, change original (9).
13 Starts in the nick of time: calls 'Halt' in the nick (5).
14 The two are in the soup — right in (5).
15 Administrator gives flower to very attractive girl outside (9).
17 Shanghai journalists? (5-4).
20 Health food (5).
21 Bury is not wearisome at the start of the season (5).
23 Partisan set apart from the rest (2,3,4).
25 Ridicule ass going round the Cape by rail (7).
26 Young English horse enters the driving area (7).
27 Sealant in sack, we hear (4).
28 Small boat, when taken to loch, exhibits inclination to heel over under sail (10).

DOWN

1 Length determined by the number of feet (5).
2 I'm on top of the world (5,4).
3 Tom, Dick or Harry — comic entertains them (3,2,3,6).
4 Make much of one in the rugby side with energy (7).
5 Run clogs up? With much pleasure (7).
7 Pig taking others' share (5).
8 People replace the point in weapon where the arms are kept (9).
9 Train woman in race to come last (5,2,3,4).
14 Distributing palms a bit of a sacrament (9).
16 One grandmother and one wife are dead (9).
18 Annoyed, upset by drug (7).
19 Entertained by first bit of gossip, wrote for another (7).
22 Understood the need to include 'Island' in the address (5).
24 Equally likely to win or lose a ball game, having dropped the first point (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 19.391

I	N	S	I	D	E		G	R	A	D	I	E	N	T
N		P		O		T		E		E		N		E
S	T	E	A	M	S	H	I	P		M	O	V	I	E
C		C		I		E		O		O		I		T
R	E	T	I	N	O	L		R	E	S	T	O	R	E
I		R		I		O		T				U		R
B	E	A	N	O		N	E	E	D	L	E	S	S	
E				N		G		O		O				B
	S	A	U	S	A	G	E	S		O	S	S	I	A
F		R		O		P		S		T		C		
O	L	O	R	O	S	O		E	Y	E	W	A	S	H
R		U		L		D	E	L		M		E		
M	U	S	E	D		B	A	C	T	E	R	I	A	L
T		A		E		Y		H		A		N		C
C	O	L	O	N	I	E	S		A	F	F	A	I	R

Times Two Crossword, page 48

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouces,Avon,Somrs	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Heralds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife,Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and road-works information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks

Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

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INNOVATIVE (THREE LETTERS)
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WEATHER

Most places will have a crisp and frosty morning and will stay fine and dry during the day with some winter sunshine. It will feel even colder than recent days, especially in the biting southeast wind. Frost will return in the evening. In contrast, western Scotland and the far west of Northern Ireland can expect cloudy weather with some rain. Temperatures will be nearer normal. Outlook: becoming even colder.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun, sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	14	57	s	Madrid	9	48	s
Akrotiri	20	68	s	Majorca	17	63	s
Alex'dria	22	72	s	Malaga	17	63	f
Algiers	18	64	f	Malta	16	61	c
Amsterdm	2	36	c	Mexico C*	18	64	c
Athens	11	52	c	Miami*	28	82	c
Bahrain	22	72	s	Milan	5	43	f
Bangkok	32	90	f	Montreal*	6	43	r
Barbados*	29	84	c	Moscow	-12	10	sn
Barcelona	13	55	f	Munich	-3	28	c
Beirut	20	68	f	Nairobi	26	77	s
Belgrade	-2	28	c	Naples	12	54	s
Berlin	1	30	s	N Delhi	28	82	s
Bermuda*	26	79	f	N York*	12	54	c
Biarritz	12	54	s	Nice	11	52	f
Borde'x	10	50	s	Oslo	0	32	c
Brussels	2	36	s	Paris	4	39	s
Budapst	0	32	c	Peking	-1	30	c
B Aires*	17	63	c	Perth	21	70	f
Cairo	24	75	f	Prague	-2	28	s
Cape Tn	22	72	s	Reykjavik	2	36	sn
Chicago*	6	43	c	Rhodes	16	61	s
Chr'church	11	52	f	Rio de J	29	84	s
Cologne	1	34	f	Riyadh	25	77	f
C'phagn	5	41	f	Rome	11	52	f
Corfu	12	54	s	Salzburg	-1	30	c
Dublin	10	50	s	S F'risco*	13	55	f
Faro	17	63	s	Santiago*	27	81	s
Florence	7	45	f	S Paulo*	31	88	s
Frankfurt	1	34	f	Seoul	7	45	f
Funchal	19	66	c	Sing'por	30	86	f
Geneva	3	37	c	St'kholm	1	34	c
Gibraltar	16	61	c	Strasb'rg	4	39	f
Helsinki	-1	30	c	Sydney	22	72	s
Hong K	25	77	f	Tangier	19	66	c
Innsbrck	0	32	f	Tel Aviv	18	66	c
Istanbul	5	41	f	Tenerife	21	70	f
Jeddah	28	82	s	Tokyo	18	64	f
Jo'burg*	28	77	s	Toronto*	6	43	f
Karachi	33	90	s	Tunis	13	55	f
L Palmas	23	72	f	Valencia	13	55	f
Le Touq	3	37	f	Vanc'ver*	6	43	sh
Lisbon	13	55	s	Venice	7	45	s
Locarno	6	43	c	Vienna	-1	30	c
L Angels*	18	64	s	Warsaw	-5	23	c
Luxembg	1	34	s	Washt'n*	14	57	c
Luxor	27	81	c	Wel'ngton	13	55	c
				Zurich	-1	30	c

* denotes figures are latest available

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	3.5	-	8	46	bright
Anglesey	6.1	-	9	48	sunny
Aviemore	2.9	-	7	45	bright
Belfast	1.0	-	9	48	cloudy
Birmingham	3.1	-	7	45	sunny
Bognor Regis	5.6	-	7	45	sunny
Bournemouth	6.5	-	8	46	sunny
Bristol	2.9	-	8	46	bright
Buxton	0.6	-	3	37	cloudy
Cardiff	-	-	7	45	cloudy
Clacton	6.9	-	6	43	sunny
Cromer	6.6	-	7	45	sunny
Edinburgh	5.6	-	9	48	sunny
Eskdalemuir	5.7	-	6	41	sunny
Exmouth	2.7	-	8	46	bright
Falmouth	2.5	-	9	48	bright
Folkestone	7.6	-	5	41	sunny
Glasgow	0.9	-	7	45	cloudy
Guernsey	7.2	-	9	48	sunny
Hastings	7.7	-	6	43	sunny
Hunstanton	6.2	-	6	43	sunny
Isle of Man	4.9	-	9	48	bright
Jersey	7.3	-	7	45	sunny
Kinloss	2.4	-	9	48	sunny
Leeds	3.4	-	4	39	bright
Larwick	1.6	-	8	46	cloudy
Littlehampton	5.9	-	7	45	sunny
Liverpool	5.6	-	5	41	sunny
London	7.1	-	7	45	sunny
Lowestoft	5.4	-	7	45	sunny
Manchester	3.3	-	5	41	sunny
Margate	x	-	5	41	sunny
Minehead	x	-	8	46	bright
Morecambe	6.3	-	7	45	sunny
Newcastle	5.2	-	4	39	sunny
Newquay	5.2	-	10	50	sunny
Nottingham	4.4	-	5	41	sunny
Penzance	3.2	-	10	50	bright
Plymouth	1.9	-	8	46	cloudy
Poole	3.8	-	8	46	sunny
Saunton Snd	5.4	-	9	48	sunny
Scilly Isles	0.3	-	10	50	cloudy
Sheraton	5.7	-	7	45	sunny
Southsea	5.2	-	7	45	sunny
Stornoway	-	-	10	50	cloudy
Swanage	5.0	-	8	46	sunny
Teignmouth	2.7	-	9	48	cloudy
Tenby	1.7	-	9	48	cloudy
Tiree	-	-	10	50	cloudy
Torquay	4.0	-	9	48	bright
Weymouth	0.3	-	8	46	cloudy
Wick	0.9	-	8	46	cloudy

These are Wednesday's figures

LONDON

Yesterday: Temp. max 6am to 6pm, 6C (43F), min 6pm to 6am, 2C (36F). Humidity: 6pm, 65 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 6.5hr. Bar. mean sea level, 6pm, 1,031.2 millibars, rising
1,000 millibars = 29.53in

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Wednesday: Highest day temp: Aultbea, Highland 11C (52F), lowest day max: Buxton, Derbyshire 3C (37 F), highest sunshine: Hastings & E Sussex 7.7hr.

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 5C (41F), min 6pm to 6am, 1C (34F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 2.0hr

GLASGOW

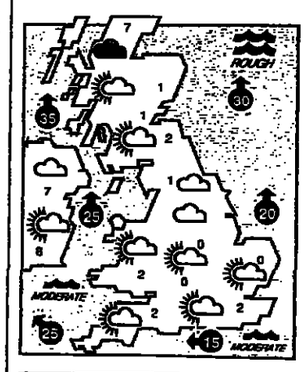
Yesterday: Temp. max 6am to 6pm, 8C (43F), min 6pm to 6am, 1C (34F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 0.3hr.

TOURIST RATES

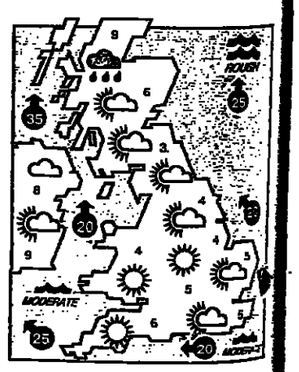
	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.33	2.13
Austria Sch	18.74	17.24
Belgium Fr	56.56	52.16
Canada $	02.05	01.88
Cyprus Cypf	0.787	00.737
Denmark Kr	10.80	09.90
Finland Mkk	9.27	08.47
France Fr	9.17	8.47
Germany Dm	2.57	2.46
Greece Dr	378.00	353.00
Hong Kong $	12.08	11.08
Ireland Pt	1.10	1.02
Italy Lira	2563.00	2408.00
Japan Yen	175.50	156.00
Malta	0.620	0.565
Netherlands Gld	2.980	2.750
Norway Kr	11.51	10.71
Portugal Esc	267.00	248.50
South Africa Rd	5.70	4.80
Spain Pta	210.00	196.00
Sweden Kr	12.71	11.91
Switzerland Fr	2.34	2.16
Turkey Lira	20800	19500
USA $	1.575	1.445

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

AM



PM



LIGHTING-UP TIMES

London 4.36 pm to 6.55 am
Bristol 4.46 pm to 7.05 am
Edinburgh 4.29 pm to 7.27 am
Manchester 4.36 pm to 7.12 am
Penzance 5.03 pm to 7.12 am

Sun rises: 7.25 am
Sun sets: 4.06pm
Moon sets 10.05 pm
Moon rises 11.57 am
First quarter Nov 21

Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1989: The hours of darkness are defined in these Regulations as the period between half an hour after sunset and half an hour before sunrise.

YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday c, cloud; fair; r, rain; s, sun.

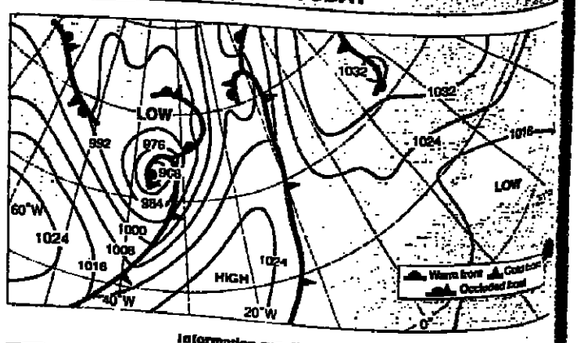
	C	F			C	F	
Belfast	9	48	c	Guernsey	5	41	
B'mngham	3	37	f	Inverness	9	48	
Blackpool	3	37	r	Jersey	4	39	
Bristol	7	45	s	London	5	41	
Cardiff	6	43	c	M'nchster	3	37	
Edinburgh	1	34	f	Newcastle	3	37	
Glasgow	5	41	s	R'nldsway	8	46	

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	5.50	6.8	5.36	6.9
Aberdeen	4.58	3.8	4.56	3.9
Avonmouth	10.40	11.8	11.2	11.2
Belfast	2.33	3.2	2.46	3.4
Cardiff	10.25	11.0	10.47	10.4
Devonport	9.7	5.1	9.39	4.7
Dover	2.9	6.3	2.36	6.0
Falmouth	8.37	4.9	9.9	4.5
Glasgow	4.2	4.6	4.18	5.1
Harwich	2.54	3.8	3.25	3.8
Holyhead	1.41	5.0	1.54	5.2
Hull	9.52	6.5	9.56	6.9
Ilfracombe	9.24	8.3	9.45	7.8
King's Lynn	10.4	5.9	10.1	6.0
Leith	6.21	5.1	6.29	5.0

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
Liverpool	2.26	8.5	2.44	
Lowestoft	12.22	2.5	1.20	
Margate	3.8	4.8	3.46	
Milford Haven	9.42	6.3	10.6	
Newquay	8.36	6.4	9.1	
Oban	8.59	3.8	9.6	
Penzance	8.15	5.2	8.49	
Portland	9.45	1.9	10.14	
Portsmouth	2.41	4.5	2.54	
Shoreham	2.18	5.9	2.31	
Southampton	2.20	4.2	2.30	
Swansea	9.38	8.7	10.7	
Tees	7.17	4.9	7.34	
W'ton-on-Nze	2.49	4.0	3.24	

NOON TODAY



Information supplied by Met Office

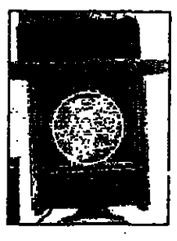
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هكذا من الأصل



INFOTECH 33-36

Go deep sea diving on screen with the CD-rom



ARTS 37-39

Richard Cork on the changing face of portraiture



SPORT 43-48

Graham Taylor — where does he go now?

MOTORING NEVER TOO OLD TO DRIVE
Page 41

THE TIMES

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 19 1993

Rolls to shed further 1,000 workers

BY ROSS TIEMAN
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

ROLLS-ROYCE is to shed an extra 1,000 workers next year, bringing to 3,000 the number of job cuts planned for 1994 by the aero-engine and power generation group.

The news, which took union leaders by surprise, came despite the company's success in winning more than £820 million of orders in the past week. Rolls blamed "continued difficult conditions" in aviation markets.

Recession has caused many airlines to cancel or defer delivery of new planes and reduced demand for spares. At the same time, Rolls has been hit by the rundown in defence purchases triggered by the end of the Cold War and has been increasingly successful in finding efficiency savings in the production process.

Rolls-Royce said it would consult unions before implementing the cuts, which managers hope can be achieved by voluntary redundancies. However, compulsory job cuts have not been ruled out. More than 3,000 jobs have already been shed by Rolls this year. By the end of next year, the workforce is expected to be down to 23,500.

The latest cutbacks include a further 350 redundancies at its factory in Bristol, 140 in Derby and 135 at its East Kilbride factory, near Glasgow, which currently employs 1,815 people. A spokesman said the new reductions arose from a continuing review of manpower needs.

Larry Brooke, of the MSF technical union, said: "We are witnessing an acceleration of job losses at Rolls-Royce which will lead to the greater demoralisation of the workforce." He said union leaders would seek an early meeting with the company "in an endeavour to dissuade them from implementing these savage cuts".

New orders secured by Rolls this week include contracts to build three power stations in India, and the provision of aircraft engines for British Midland Airways and United Parcel Service, of the United States.



STEPHEN MARKESON

Keith Edelman gave the City cause to celebrate an early Christmas yesterday, with news of Storehouse's return to the black. Story, page 27; Tempus 29

Jobless total tumbles by 49,000 in October

BY COLIN NARBROUGH

■ The biggest monthly decrease in unemployment for four years was probably a statistical anomaly, but the official view is that the economy is now turning round

THE biggest monthly drop in unemployment for four-and-a-half years caught the City off guard, but lifted the government's confidence in its economic policy after the dip in inflation reported on Wednesday.

David Hunt, employment secretary, hailed the 49,000 fall in the seasonally adjusted jobless total in October as evidence that the flexible, deregulated labour market was delivering growth and jobs. "Britain is leading Europe out of recession," he said.

The seasonally adjusted figure, seen as the best guide to the level of jobless, fell to 2,855,100, the lowest since September 1992, according to official data issued yesterday. This brought the unemployment rate down to 10.2 per cent from 10.3 per cent. Unemployment has fallen in seven of the first nine months of this year, contrary to forecasters' expectations.

City economists and Whitehall officials remain sceptical about the official unemployment data and what they reveal about the labour market. Some employment officials said the big October fall in the unemployed was no guide to the trend and was probably an anomaly. The department's official view is that the downward trend in unemployment now appears to be more firmly established, suggesting the economy has turned round after severe recession.

Independent economists fear, however, that the reduction in unemployment in recent months could easily be reversed if Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, announces measures in his November 30 Budget that damage confidence and stall recovery.

Inflation figures on Wednesday showed annual retail price inflation slowing to 1.4 per cent in October from 1.8 per cent the previous month, a development the government saw as evidence that its pursuit of non-inflationary growth is succeeding.

But the financial markets, wary ahead of the Budget, took the slowdown in inflation and disappointing retail sales as a sign that recovery might be losing momentum.

Mr Hunt said the October data showed that unemployment has been falling by an average of 15,000 a month and is now 137,000 below its January peak, with a "very high level" of activity across the labour market. He said falls in unemployment are widespread in every region.

The unadjusted jobless figure fell even more sharply than the adjusted figure, with the total down 18,534 to 2,793,596, the biggest monthly drop for five years.

Encouragingly, the total of long-term unemployed (out of work for more than a year) fell 10,000 in the latest three months, the first quarterly decline for three years. But the total still remains above a million. Unfilled vacancies were up 7,100 at 134,000, the highest for two-and-a-half years.

John Prescott, the shadow employment secretary, welcomed the fall in unemployment, but said the level remained "unacceptably high" and there was no room for government complacency. He said manufacturing jobs continued to disappear at the rate of about 125,000 a year.

Earnings figures showed an underlying rise in average pay of 3 per cent in September, the smallest annual increase for 25 years, which will help keep inflation subdued. Pay settlements data from the Confederation of British Industry indicate that deals in manufacturing averaged just 2.3 per cent in the third quarter, unchanged from the second.

Amstrad warning cuts 20% off value

BY PHILIP PANGALOS

ALMOST £60 million was wiped off the market value of Amstrad yesterday after a surprise warning that poor demand will take its toll on profits at Alan Sugar's consumer electronics group.

Shares in Amstrad fell 20 per cent on the profit warning, which was given in the morning, before the annual meeting. The group painted a bleak picture of current trading and forecast that conditions are unlikely to improve until at least next summer as tight margins and the recession in Europe continue.

Amstrad said tougher than expected October trading and a weak outlook for November and December have raised fears that sales and margins for the current financial year will not match last year's levels. "Current market expectations for Amstrad's sales and operating profit for the year to 30 June 1994 are therefore likely to be optimistic," the group said.

Amstrad shares, which touched a year's high of 55p this week, dived 10¾p to 43p, on heavy volume of 15 million. Amstrad was capitalised at £249.9 million at yesterday's close.

Last month, Amstrad announced an annual pre-tax loss of £20.5 million — after incurring a £33.5 million loss on the closure of its Spanish unit — against a £70.7 million loss in the previous year.

Analysts' forecasts for the current year ranged from £20 million to £33 million. They are now expected to trim their estimates to between £10 million and £17 million.

Mr Sugar, founder and chairman of Amstrad, which has a cash pile of £140.5 million, says there is scope to boost the group's sales and profitability through acquisitions.

Pennington, page 27

BUSINESS EDITOR
Robert Ballantyne

BUSINESS TODAY

TRADE PLEA

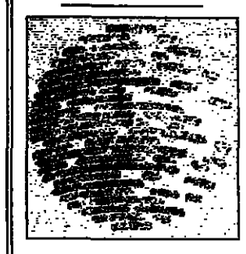
Gas

A regulatory chill cooled profits at British Gas, which wants a quick decision from Michael Heseltine on its future
Tempus 29, Report 31

TRADE WIND

After Nafta, Gatt's chief believes an accord on world free trade is closer
Report, page 26
Pennington 27

TRADE OFF



Cable and Wireless is to use radio to short-circuit £200 million of connection payments to British Telecom
Page 28, Tempus 29

TRADE BLOWS

Volvo returned to the black while profits at Renault, its intended merger partner, plummeted 86 per cent
Page 28

Ferranti losses worsen

BY MELVYN MARCKUS, CITY EDITOR

EUGENE Anderson, chairman of Ferranti, the stricken defence contractor, revealed a rise in mid-year pre-tax losses from £10.9 million to £19.4 million. He again warned shareholders that the only alternative to GEC's 1p a share rescue bid was receivership.

Turnover fell from £109.4 million to £91 million in the six months to September 30, while operating losses increased from £2.9 million to £5.3 million. Shareholders' funds almost halved, from £62.2 million to £34.9 million.

Mr Anderson was appointed in 1990 to try to salvage the company in the wake of a $1 billion contract fraud masterminded by James Guerin, the former deputy chairman. Mr Anderson emphasised that the company's "ability to win new business" had been "severely damaged" by the liquidity crisis.

At a press conference in the City offices of Baring Brothers, Ferranti's advisers, Mr Anderson disclosed that the company was suffering a monthly cash outflow of close on £1.5 million. He said the "very disappointing" results confirmed a "worsening of the financial position" and underlined the company's "desperate plight". In his words: "We must break out of this vicious circle. Failure to do so will mean receivership. The way out is shareholders' acceptance of GEC's offers." Referring to the Ferranti Shareholders Support Association, led by John Katz, Mr Anderson said shareholders should not "heed the advice of some who are seeking to block the bid in the mistaken hope that something better is in the offing. It is not."

He insisted that, since last month's announcement of GEC's rescue bid, no other serious offer had been received. GEC's offer was "final" and "will not be increased under any circumstances". Nor would GEC acquire Ferranti "unless it owns the entire share capital".

Ferranti's share price fell by ¼p, to match GEC's 1p terms.

Pennington, page 27

Figures give mixed signals on economy

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

A CLUTCH of figures on bank and building society lending gave mixed signals yesterday about economic activity. Bank lending and M4 money supply both showed healthy rises in October, suggesting recovery in credit demand, although some special factors appeared to be at work.

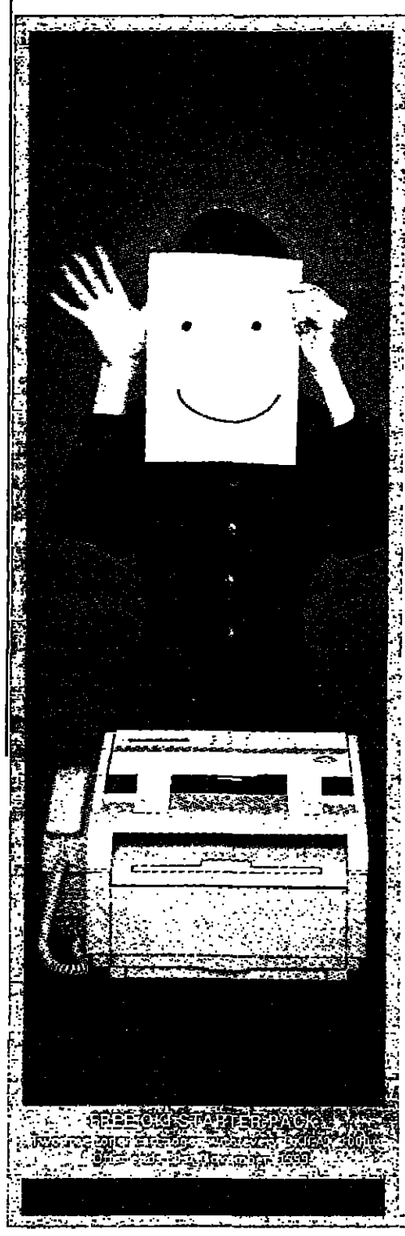
M4 money supply rose by 4.3 per cent in the year to October, up on 3.9 per cent previously, and M4's lending component rose by £1.8 billion, from £2 billion in September.

The British Bankers' Association said total lending to the private sector rose by £1.95 billion, after a revised fall of £183 million in September, but it noted that most of October's lending was to the financial sector and would probably be short term. Other companies cut borrowing, in spite of corporation tax bills, and consumer credit demand stayed weak.

The Building Societies Association said that net new commitments by societies eased in October, to £2.54 billion from £2.56 billion. Adrian Coles, director general, said: "The continued subdued level of new commitments highlights the fragility of the recovery in the housing market."

The Treasury said M4's rise indicated recovery in housing.

Unreliable figures, page 29



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BRENT CRUDE

$16.00 per barrel (Jan)

6pm

LONDON CLOSING PRICES

MARKETS IN DETAIL PAGE 28, SHARE PRICES PAGE 30

World trade deal 'almost within grasp'

Sutherland hails Nafta vote

BY COLIN NARBROUGH
WORLD TRADE CORRESPONDENT

APPROVAL of the North American Free Trade Agreement (Nafta) by the US House of Representatives has brought an accord on freer global trade "almost within our grasp", Peter Sutherland, Gatt director-general, said.

He said the news that President Clinton had won a 234-to-200 majority to create a free trade area encompassing America, Canada and Mexico meant that half the battle had been won for the global Uruguay round.

The dollar gained ground against the major currencies in response to the Nafta vote, but Wall Street took advantage of the favourable response to take profits, pushing the market lower.

In sharp contrast to the warning tone he has adopted lately, Mr Sutherland's remarks were almost upbeat. He told BBC radio that the Washington vote had "significantly improved" the prospects of a world trade deal by the December 15 deadline.

Mr Sutherland has been pressing governments to bring the seven-year Uruguay round, which involves more than 100 nations, to a successful conclusion. But he has run into French opposition to a crucial farm subsidy deal between Brussels and Washington.

There was a chorus of congratulations for President Clinton, but some Gatt negotiators remained sceptical about the American position. While the size of the majority for Nafta might appear to have strengthened the US administration's efforts to reach the wider Gatt deal, it is suspected that in congressional horse-trading ahead of the vote, President Clinton may have made concessions to lobbies seeking a tougher trade stance by America against the European Community and Japan.

Sir Leon Brittan, the European trade commissioner, said he would scrutinise the Nafta deal to see whether commitments had been made to secure congressional votes. But he thought a Gatt deal was "perfectly possible".

Edouard Balladur, the French prime minister, said a draft agreement to reduce world trade barriers had to be submitted to EC ministers at the beginning of next month: France did not intend to be forced to decide within hours of the December 15 deadline.

At the Pacific Rim summit in Seattle, Warren Christopher, the US secretary of state, said Washington's position on global trade talks had been greatly strengthened. He said further concessions would be needed to secure a deal.

Pennington, page 27



Peter Sutherland, Gatt director-general, in sanguine mood yesterday, after Congress supported President Clinton

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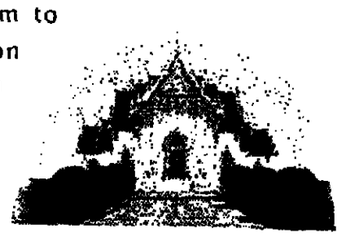
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Governor defends Bank as overseer

BY JANET BUSH
ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

EDDIE George, Governor of the Bank of England, yesterday defended the Bank's role of overseeing the health of the financial system, the day after an independent panel concluded that this role was "not necessary".

In a speech at the London School of Economics, Mr George stressed that the Bank's mandate to pursue monetary stability could not be divorced from financial stability. The Bank's role in supervising individual banks for the purpose of reducing the risks of failure and of depositors losing money "sits quite comfortably alongside supervision for the quite different original purpose of reducing systemic risk", he added.

Mr George said: "The nature of the supervisory activity is essentially the same, and there is an obvious efficiency in conducting that activity as a single operation."

An independent panel under the auspices of the Centre for Economic Policy Research on Wednesday recommended that the Bank of England's role should be narrowly defined as the pursuit of monetary stability through the setting of an inflation target and regular reports of its activities to Parliament.

The report suggested that the Bank's other roles, such as supervision of the banking system, should be passed to another institution (as it is in Germany) but added that the issue was secondary to greater central bank independence.

Mr George confirmed that the Bank had supported the financial system in the early 1990s to an extent not seen since 1973 and 1974. He outlined a number of key principles in supervision, one that the Bank would always explore commercial solutions before committing its own funds.

Faster US growth predicted

BY OUR ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE US is likely to see faster economic growth and a modest drop in unemployment, with stable or possibly declining inflation, according to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

The OECD said that while this might appear disappointing, "it is actually rather satisfactory, given the weakness of export markets and the ongoing structural adjustments that must be faced".

However, despite subdued inflationary pressures and "credible deficit reduction" embodied in the 1994 federal budget, the OECD expects US interest rates to rise, with the Fed Funds rate increasing to 5 per cent, from 3 per cent currently, "by the time the recovery is complete".

In an interview, Peter Jarrett, an OECD economist, said the Federal Reserve might begin to tighten monetary policy around Christmas, to head off inflation.

The OECD expects the US economy to grow by 2.8 per cent this year and by 3.1 per cent in 1994. It estimates that the rate of growth of GDP in the third quarter was somewhat less than the government's initial estimate of 2.8 per cent a year, but foresees a growth rate of about 4 per cent in the current quarter.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

American limit on BA in air access dispute

THE dispute between British and American aviation regulators grew last night as the US refuted UK claims that it had broken an international air agreement by placing limits on co-operation between British Airways and its loss-making associate, USAir. Accusations flew after Federico Pena, the US transport secretary, allowed the two to operate as a single airline to a further 28 American cities but limited the approval time to 60 days, rather than the traditional year. The US Transport Department said that it did not believe that it had violated a bi-lateral deal, and said: "In approving the new service for only a short period, the department noted certain problems experienced in accessing Heathrow Airport [by US carriers] at commercially viable times."

The limit on BA-USAir co-operation is seen as indicating that the US is serious about gaining greater access to Britain in a bi-lateral agreement being re-negotiated. BA had sought a 75 per cent increase, from 38 to 66, in the number of US cities it may serve on a code-sharing basis with USAir.

Indian venture for IDV

INTERNATIONAL Distillers & Vintners, the drinks arm of Grand Metropolitan, is to form a joint venture with Polychem, part of the Kilachand Group of India, to produce, market and distribute IDV's brands for the potentially huge market in the sub-continent. The new company, in which IDV will have a 60 per cent stake, will begin production early next year of brands, such as Smirnoff vodka, Malibu coconut rum and Archer's Peach County Schnapps. It will also develop spirits specifically for the Indian market. The announcement follows similar moves by IDV into the Far East in the past 18 months.

Bett Brothers advances

A STRONG operating performance put Bett Brothers, the Dundee housebuilder and property group, back on the dividend list for the year to August 31. The group had returned to the black at the interim stage, and announced yesterday a total dividend of 2p (nil) via a 1.5p final. The group said homes, property and pubs had all contributed to profits. Bett sold 200 homes at an average selling price of £86,000, against 160 at an average £80,000 in 1992. Pre-tax profits of £4.35 million replaced a £9.73 million loss last time. Earnings per share were 7.63p (46.20p loss per share).

First payout from RPC

A MAIDEN interim dividend of 1p has been declared by RPC, the rigid plastic packaging company that went public last May at a price of 125p. The shares yesterday were 150p, up 1p. In the six months to end-September, taxable profits rose to £4.2 million (£3.8 million), although earnings fell slightly to 5.4p (5.5p) a share because there were more shares in issue this time round. Lindsay Mackinlay, chairman, said trading was in line with expectations at flotation. High levels of demand lasted until end-June but poor summer weather hit demand for soft drink bottles.

Currency fillip for Sony

SONY'S second-quarter profits soared by 41 per cent, to 18.01 billion yen (£113.5 million). The company benefited from the yen's appreciation in the July-September quarter, making a profit of 11.99 billion yen from foreign-exchange forward transactions. Sony said higher pre-tax profit in the quarter was also attributable to lower interest payments, debt having been cut by means of investment adjustments. Half-year current profit fell by 53 per cent, to 17.13 billion yen. But the pre-tax figure rose by 34 per cent, to 56.65 billion, after counting in interest and foreign-exchange effects.

Millwall reduces loss

MILLWALL, the publicly-quoted football club that moved into a newly-built south London stadium last summer, cut its pre-tax loss to £1.09 million (from £3.63 million) in the 12 months to end-May. The group, which made a £3.2 million cash call on shareholders earlier this year, is paying no dividend. Losses per share are 0.68p (LPS 4.47p). The club made profit on transfer fees of £1.08 million (£1.06 million). Reg Burr, chairman, said that Millwall would bear in mind "the playing needs of the football club" while trying to hold a satisfactory margin between sales and purchases.

Hogg Robinson up

HOGG Robinson, the travel, transport and financial services group, made pre-tax profits of £14.27 million (£10.1 million) in the six months to end-September, but only after a £7.8 million profit from the sale of its leisure travel business. Before the sale, the three-month profit contribution was £1.2 million (£3.4 million). The interim dividend was lifted 0.15p to 2.75p and the shares fell 9p to 225p. Profits from continuing operations rose £80,000 to £5.5 million, with business travel profits at £1.62 million (£900,000), financial services profits at £2.35 million, while those in transport slipped to £2.5 million.

Ericsson leaps ahead

PRE-TAX profits at Ericsson, the Swedish telecommunications group, advanced strongly to Kr1.86 billion (£152 million) in the first nine months from Kr122 million in the previous period. The company stuck to its half-way forecast that group pre-tax profits for the full year are likely to be at least double the Kr1.31 billion reported last year. Operating profits in the first nine months, after allowance for exchange rate changes, quadrupled to Kr2.17 billion. Lars Ramqvist, the company president, said the third quarter had shown a "very positive trend with a strong inflow of new orders".

Italian dissent threatens failure of EC steel deal

FROM JAMES LANDALE IN BRUSSELS

EUROPEAN community industry ministers were last night struggling to reach agreement on plans to reconstruct Europe's beleaguered steel industry after Italy refused to accept a proposal to make huge production cuts.

European Commission plans to authorise millions of pounds of state subsidies to state-owned steelmakers in return for cuts in production ran into trouble as ministers in Brussels complained that they were either receiving too little or cutting too much. Britain, which has already made huge cuts, losing 3,000 jobs at the British Steel plant at Ravenscraig last year, without commensurate subsidies, said the capacity cuts should be rigorously enforced in other countries.

Tim Sainsbury, the junior industry minister, said that no deal was better than a bad deal. "It's not easy to explain to those affected by the closures, ie, those who lose their jobs, why aid should be allowed to enable companies elsewhere to continue operating and even in some cases to increase their capacity," he said.



Sainsbury: bad deal

The commission had hoped that an all-round package agreeing subsidies to Italian, German, Spanish and Portuguese state-owned steelmakers could be reached. This would have cut about 5.5 million tons of production in return for subsidies worth £5.18 billion.

Even a deal to cut German production, which was reached this week, was uncertain. The commission had agreed to the sale of 60 per cent of the East German Ekostahl plant to Riva, an Italian steel group. Ekostahl would, under this plan, receive about £320 million in state aid in return for Riva agreeing to close one of its East German mills by 1994, cutting capacity by a further 320,000 tons. However, agreement with Italy over cuts at the loss-making Ilva plant at Taranto in Southern Italy looked unlikely last night.

هكذا من الأصل

☐ After Nafta, trade negotiators are looking for a trade-off ☐ Rattle of chains at Ferranti ☐ Sugar, the City's Graham Taylor

Gatt partners hope for more pork

☐ WHAT a rubbing of hands there has been in the rest of the world over President Clinton's political triumph over Nafta. Not that the welcome is pure hypocrisy, even among countries whose exports may be squeezed in the American market by Mexican preference. It is just that France, the European Commission and Japan see themselves cast as Southern Congressmen, whose votes for a Gatt deal on December 15 can now be bought by White House concessions.

The message from the Matignon is the most explicit. Edouard Balladur said the outcome fo the Nafta haggling showed that "when reasonable concessions are made, a deal is possible". But the EC and Japan quickly spotted that it would be worth looking at the Nafta small print to see if any commitments made to American producers of anything from peanuts to butter — such as protection from import surges — might be used in aid to provide get-out clauses in a new Gatt regime. Japan seems to have agreed to turn rice quotas into tariffs but there is speculation in Tokyo that it will not include agriculture in its final offer of tariff reductions.

Such diplomatic wishful thinking, which sees a Gatt deal as unpleasant medicine rather than a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow, may not be entirely misplaced. America reckons the Nafta deal will strengthen its hand over Gatt, but Mr Clinton also sees it as helping to "reassert American leadership in the world economy", which usually implies lordly magnanimity. In theory, Nafta — which opens the way for a US-led free trade area from the Arctic to Tierra del Fuego — should strengthen America's hand because it no longer needs a Gatt deal so much. If, however, the aim is political, then Nafta does make it easier for America to offer concessions to "reassert leadership".

In that sense, Sir James Goldsmith, who damns the Uruguay round like some public school Ross Perot, has a point. Open trading round the world is certainly sustainable with frictional tariffs, whatever Sir James says, but free trade will in future centre on trading blocs of compatible economies. A worldwide Gatt deal remains vital, firstly for the majority of countries that are not yet or never will be attached to one of the main blocs, and also for regulating relations between the blocs.

For that purpose, the chief concession America needs to make is to agree to an executive Multilateral Trade Organisation being set up to absorb the Gatt secretariat, enforce the rules and judge disputes. American objections lie largely in history. Its refusal to agree that intended third plank in the postwar arrangements, which set up the IMF and the World Bank, has had much to do with the faltering progress of freer trade that has culminated in the seven year circus due to reach yet another final deadline next month. Making the deal work now looks more important than what ends up in the package.

The Ghost of Bloodhounds Past

☐ Ferranti, like Marley, is dead; dead as a doornail. Whether Lord Weinstock (at risk of being type-cast) will enjoy a visitation from The Ghost of Bloodhounds Past, courtesy of 90 per cent of shareholders, or will be left to pare out his sovereigns to the NatWest's choice of receiver, is about all that is left to debate.

Eugene Anderson, presenting Ferranti's 1993-4 mid-year results yesterday, left shareholders in little doubt as to Ferranti's doomail characteristics. First came the figures: pre-tax losses have almost doubled to £19.4 million, while shareholders' funds have almost halved to £34.9 million. Net debt has risen from some £74 million to £98.6 million which, after taking account of contingent liabilities of £38.1 million and £18.2 million owed to creditors, raises Ferranti's exposure to close on £155 million.

Just in case shareholders had not quite got the drift, Anderson fired a series of bullet points.

■ Ferranti's financial position has damaged its ability to win new business.

■ The liquidity crisis prevents efficient delivery of products.

■ If GEC's offer fails the banks will cease to support Ferranti.

■ GEC's offer is the only alternative to receivership from which shareholders are unlikely to receive anything.

■ GEC's offer represents the best prospect of saving Ferranti's technology and is in the best interests of suppliers, creditors, customers and employees.

Anderson, with an eye on John Katz's Ferranti Shareholders Support Association, also warned that it would be "self defeating" to heed the advice of those seeking to block the bid "in the mistaken hope that something better is in the offing".

Katz, for his part, was not quite up to speed when *The Times* spoke to him yesterday evening. "I know the extent of the loss but I have not read Anderson's statement," he said. "What little I have heard would appear to be much as expected."

That said, Katz claims to have been contacted by 600 shareholders, speaking for some 30 million shares representing some 3 per cent of Ferranti's equity. Such shareholders are being invited to join the FSSA (for a fee of £25) with a further £12.50p suggested for every 50,000 shares held: the target being a £20,000/£30,000 fund. Katz would expect to receive a "modest" remuneration for his work — subject to shareholders' agreement.

Difficult to perceive, however, quite what Katz can achieve in a matter of weeks which Anderson failed to achieve over almost four years.

More light, no more sweetness

☐ ALAN Sugar's attempts to plug into a more open, constructive relationship with the City will have swiftly confirmed the prejudices of both. Six weeks ago, Amstrad held a meeting with analysts that left them singing the praises of his new strategy of buying in new products. After a session on their own computers, most came up with 1993-4 profit forecasts of £20-£33 million and one raised his short-term target for Amstrad shares to 55-60p. They had duly climbed to 53¾p by Wednesday night.

Alas, the inkjets had hardly stopped squirting before things started going wrong in the high street at the crucial point in the year. In the new spirit of the age, Amstrad issued a formal profit warning to the stock market yesterday morning, not waiting on analysts to draw whatever conclusions they might from Mr Sugar's remarks at the company's annual meeting in the afternoon. According to the Stock Exchange, reactions will calm down as market participants get used to such formal updates. But in the trading rooms, they just marked Amstrad shares down by a round 20 per cent to be on the safe side and the analysts were again describing Mr Sugar in terms usually reserved for the England football manager.

Let us hope history does not go on repeating itself. If Mr Sugar were again to contemplate taking his less glamorous quoted company private, he would need to double his first 30p offer before anyone would take him seriously. His search for a chief executive suggests other priorities and a different strategy, which is clearly at an early stage. Meanwhile, Mr Sugar is far from being the only one to read consumers wrong in the past few months. Openness does not imply a smooth ride.

South East still suffering says Whitbread

BY NEIL BENNETT

THE South East is still teetering on the brink of recession according to Whitbread, the public houses and restaurants group, which yesterday reported higher half-year profits but said it had received almost no assistance from an economic upturn.

Sir Michael Angus, Whitbread's chairman, said the small rise in the group's sales was "no mean achievement when consumer confidence is so low". He attributed the progress to Whitbread's branded businesses, particularly its Pizza Hut and Beefeater restaurant chains.

Pre-tax profits in the six months to end-September rose 13 per cent to £136 million in spite of the burden of an extra £8.1 million pension charge since the group has had to abandon its pension holiday. The rise came from 2 per cent higher sales at £1.19 billion and allowed the half-year dividend to be raised to 5p.

Both its public houses and restaurants show that the recession continues to linger in London and the southeast, where its businesses are traditionally concentrated. Sales in its managed public houses rose only 1 per cent in the southeast, against 7.5 per cent in the rest of the country. Pizza Hut turnover grew 3 per cent in London, 9 per cent in the Midlands and 11 per cent in Yorkshire and Scotland.

Sir Michael said Whitbread's sales were also being hit by the growing cross-Channel trade in beer and wine, now estimated to account for 12 per cent of the total take-home drinks market. This is particularly hitting Thresher, Whitbread's off-licence chain. He called on the government to stop the trend.

Whitbread's strongest performer in the half year was Brewers Fayre, its pub-restaurant chain which now has more than 20 outlets earning £10,500 a week. The group plans to open a new branch every week next year. Profits at the restaurant and leisure division grew 15 per cent to £26.9 million in the half year.

The beer and drinks division suffered a £1.9 million fall in profit due mainly to a lower contribution from Britvic, the soft drinks manufacturer. The pub partnership division, which handles the group's tenanted pubs, suffered a £5.6 million fall in profit to £25.2 million due to the higher pension cost and the sale of 450 pubs since last year.

Whitbread is poised to complete the plans announced last month to equalise voting rights on its A and B shares and buy the Whitbread Investment Company. This should help eliminate remaining debt and allow acquisitions, though it is still intent on expanding existing businesses.

Tempus, page 29

JOHN MANNING



Sir Michael Angus sees little evidence of an upturn

BhS and Mothercare lead the revival

Storehouse back in black

BY SUSAN GILCHRIST

STOREHOUSE returned to the black at the interim stage thanks to strong performances from BhS and Mothercare and the elimination of loss-making businesses.

A pre-tax profit of £11.6 million for the six months to October 9 followed a loss of £27.3 million last time that resulted from a £30.4 million exceptional charge on the disposal of the Habitat and Richards chains.

Keith Edelman, presenting his first results as chief executive, said the group had delivered "a strong profit improvement story" to the City. The share price had risen 17p to 200p by yesterday's close, with analysts taking heart from hints that the final dividend might be raised. The interim dividend is unchanged at 2.5p, but Mr Edelman promised a review of the final payout now that dividend cover had improved. Excluding exceptional items, earnings increased from 0.5p to 3.0p a share.

Profits would have been even higher without an exceptional provision of £6.4 million relating to the repayment of loan notes issued after the sale of the Mothercare stores chain in America two years ago.

Sales at BhS improved by 5 per cent to £337 million (£323 million) and operating profits by 47 per cent to £15.4 million (£10.5 million). Prices were held for the second consecutive year, but margins were maintained through tight control of costs. The company is eager to expand the 137-strong chain to about 40 more towns in which it is not represented, while it also aims to increase the selling space in many existing stores.

Mothercare sales rose to £141 million (£133 million) on profits of £2.1 million (£1.7 million). A strategic price repositioning, which saw prices drop by 2 per cent, resulted in a short-term fall in margins.

The new store concept has been rolled out to nine of the chain's 264 stores, with plans to extend it to all leading stores over the next two years at a cost of about £25 million.

Mr Edelman was optimistic about prospects in the second half. However, he gave warning that the possible extension of VAT to children's clothing, which accounts for a quarter of group sales, could have a damaging effect. The group expects to appoint a new finance director next year after the departure in October of Graham Rider has left.

Tempus, page 29

Barratt calls for retention of BES housing schemes

SIR Lawrie Barratt, chairman of Barratt Developments and one of the best-known names in housebuilding, has called for the abolition of stamp duty and a new lease of life for Business Expansion Schemes, which are due to meet their end on December 31, as a way of stimulating the housing market (Carl Mortished writes).

Speaking at the company's annual meeting yesterday, Sir Lawrie said that Barratt's house sales in the United Kingdom since July 1 had increased by 25 per cent over the corresponding period of last year.

But he warned the government against measures which would penalise house-buyers, such as the withdrawal of mortgage tax relief. "Speculation on what might be in store in the forthcoming Budget has had a negative effect on consumer confidence and the improvement flowing through the housing market has been put at risk" he said. Sir Lawrie added that business expansion schemes had been hugely successful in stimulating the private rental sector with 50,000 houses made available over four years, helping to reverse the sector's 75-year decline.

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- Net gearing at 30th September 10%.

CABLE & WIRELESS

Cable and Wireless plc, 124 Theobalds Road, London WC1X 8RX.

Interim dividend of 2.6p payable 28th February 1994 to Shareholders on the Register on 23rd December 1993.If you have any enquiries as a Cable & Wireless Shareholder, please call us on 071-315 4455. A copy of the Interim Report will be posted to Shareholders on 23rd November 1993.

Shares make lively start but are pegged back by profit-takers

STOCK MARKET

INVESTORS remained buoyed by the prospect of an imminent cut in interest rates and the positive vote on the North American Free Trade Agreement with share prices setting a cracking pace in early business.

But profit-taking in resumed dealings on Wall Street took some of the steam out London's advance leaving prices closing well below their best of the day. The FT-SE 100 index, up more than 18 points first thing, saw its lead gradually whittled away to end only 5.5 up at 3,125.5.

Turnover rose to 706 million shares with traders squaring positions ahead of the expiry later today of the November traded options.

Amstrad, the consumer electronics group, was an early faller diving 10p to 43p after warning that profits for the year were unlikely to match the market's optimistic forecasts. Trading conditions in the UK were weaker than expected during October. November and December are not expected to be much better. The company was still on the lookout for suitable acquisitions.

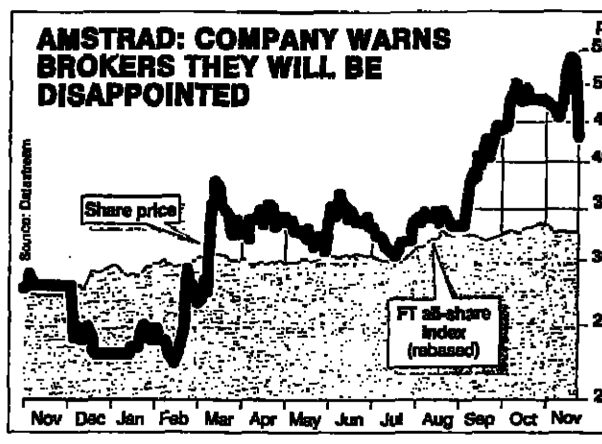
The news from Amstrad also left **Dixons**, its biggest distributor, 7p down at 270p.

Tiphook, the ailing container and trailer rental group, was again beating a retreat with the price falling 4p to 44p, having briefly touched 39p. Earlier this week, the group issued its fourth profits warning this year. The shares started the week at 95p.

Racal Electronics saw heavy turnover with 6.4 million shares traded as the price slumped 14p to 198p. Figures due in the next account are expected to make disappointing reading.

Babcock International was another flat market, losing 3½p at 28¾p ahead of interim figures on Monday. It is feared the new management team will use the occasion to clear the decks.

South West Electricity rose 7p to 599p following a visit by brokers yesterday.



Credit Lyonnais Laing says the shares have been left behind and should rise 30p before catching up with other companies in the sector.

Cable and Wireless touched 482p before ending the day 2p down at 471p after revealing first half figures near the top end of expectations with pre-tax profits up from £378 million to £509 million. Lord Young, chairman, said demand for its one-2-one mobile telephone system was running ahead of expectations.

British Gas eased 2p to 326p as it slid into the red during the third quarter with a bigger than expected net loss of £405 million against £342 million last time.

Storehouse climbed 17p to 200p after weighing in with interim pre-tax profits up from £3.1 million to £18 million. But it said that consumer confidence remains fragile.

Whitbread A advanced 19p to 519p cheered by first half pre-tax profits up from £127.1 million to £132.3 million. The result had been achieved on the back of the group's strong brand names rather than any upturn in spending. **Union Discount** firmed 1p to 170p after a large parcel of shares went through the market. Newton Investment Management sold 2.34 million shares, or 12.34 per cent, at 168p.

Tadpole Technology continued to lose ground falling 10p to 264p, after briefly touching 255p. Five directors have sold a total of 390,000 shares at 275p following last week's figures which revealed a profit of £750,000. The shares were trading above the 300p level ahead of the figures.

Grampian Holdings firmed 1p to 132p as Kleinwort Benson, the stockbroker, tipped the shares as a buy. It says Grampian has under-performed.

Raine, the housebuilder, rose 1p to 78p in heavy turnover of 6.7 million shares on the back of a bullish annual meeting. The group says it has seen a material increase in enquiry levels.

☐ **GILT EDGED**: Government bonds scored sizable gains in early trading but failed to maintain their early pace and closed near overnight levels. The December series of the Long Gilt touched £116¼ before ending just a tick higher at £115¹⁴⁄₁₆ with 69,000 contracts completed. At the longer end, Treasury 9 per cent 2012 eased three ticks to £119¹⁵⁄₁₆, while in shorts Treasury 9½ per cent 1999 was one tick lower at £113¾.

MICHAEL CLARK

MARKETS AT A GLANCE

THE POUND

US $ .... 1.4787 (-0.0003)
German mark .... 2.5249 (+0.0014)
Exchange index .... 81.0 (+0.1)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT-SE 100 .... 3125.5 (+5.5)
Dow Jones .... 3682.83 (-21.52)*
Nikkei Avg .... 18166.32 (+57.61)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base 6%
3-month Interbank .... 5⁵⁄₁₆-5³⁄₁₆%
US Federal Funds .... 2¹⁵⁄₁₆%*
3-month Treas Bills 3.11-3.10%*
Long Bond 6.21%*

CURRENCIES

New York:	London:
£:$ 1.4775*	£:$ 1.4795
$:DM 1.7113*	£:DM 2.5277
$:SWfr 1.5035*	£:SWfr 2.2214
$:Ffr ... 5.9265*	£:Ffr 8.7580
$:Yen .107.13*	£:Yen 158.45
£:SDR ..1.0638	£:ECU 1.3136

London Forex market close

GOLD

London Fixing ($).
AM 374.25 .... PM 376.75
Close 377.00-377.50
New York:
Comex 377.15-377.65*

OIL

Brent Crude .... $16.00 per bbl (Jan)

RETAIL PRICES

RPI..141.8 Oct (1.4)% Jan 1987=100
* Denotes midday trading price

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:
Lloyds .... 580p (+10p)
Sappi .... 377p (+30p)
Allied Lyons .... 572p (+11p)
Whitbread 'A' .... 519p (+19p)
BPB Ind .... 265p (+10p)
Hutch Whamp .... 267p (+11p)
Lloyds Chemist .... 306p (+13p)
Storehouse .... 200p (+17p)
Mitel .... 406p (+10p)
Sime Darby .... 149p (+14p)
Wolseley .... 730p (+11p)

FALLS:
Yorkshire Chem .... 413p (-10p)
Zeneca .... 774p (-13p)
Moss Bros .... 239p (-11p)
Amstrad .... 43p (-11p)
Racal Elect .... 198p (-14p)
Weir .... 266p (-14p)
Wellcome .... 649p (-17p)

Closing Prices Page 30

C&W wants Mercury to bypass £200m BT fees

By Susan Gilchrist

DENZIL McNEELANCE



James Ross, left, C&W chief executive, and Lord Young, chairman, unveiling progress

CABLE and Wireless is planning to use radio links to connect Mercury customers to its telephone exchanges to try to bypass more than £200 million of interconnection payments to British Telecom for use of its local lines.

Lord Young, chairman, said that the group would begin trials with wireless systems next year. The only alternative to using BT lines is for Mercury to lay its own fixed wire network, which would be prohibitively expensive. Interconnection payments to BT are Mercury's biggest single cost, eating up more than half its call revenue, according to some analysts' estimates.

Cable and Wireless yesterday unveiled a 35 per cent rise in pre-tax profit, from £378 million to £509 million, for the half year to September 30. The interim dividend rises from 2.375p to 2.60p, up 9 per cent.

Lord Young said that the strong performance was "all the more pleasing" given intensifying competition and price reductions by Mercury and by Hongkong Telecom, of which C&W owns 58 per cent.

The results included a £20 million loss on a North Sea contract in the marine division and resumption of contributions to the British pension fund. A net pension charge of £5 million during the period compares with a net credit of £5 million last time.

Mercury's turnover rose 24 per cent, to £701 million (£567 million), with operating profit 5 per cent up, at £99 million (£94 million), reflecting the effect of price cuts. The company said that margins would grow in the second half when lower interconnection payments took effect. Installed lines rose 46 per cent, to 1.4 million, with calls up 30 per cent, to 12.6 million a day.

Lord Young said that sales of Mercury One-2-One mobile phones were ahead of expectations, although the business incurred start-up losses of £9 million in the first half.

Operating profits from Asia and the Pacific grew 45 per cent to £365 million (£251 million) after a strong performance by Hongkong Telecom. C&W is issuing a 10-year Eurodollar bond to exploit emerging business opportunities.

Tempus, page 29

Fresh blow for Renault-Volvo merger

By Colin Narbrough

SHAREHOLDER resistance in Sweden to the planned merger between Volvo, the Swedish car and truck maker, and Renault, the state-owned French automotive group, is likely to be strengthened by the latest results from the two companies.

Third-quarter figures showed Volvo, buoyed by the cheaper krona, returning to a pre-tax profit of 1.06 billion kronor (£87 million) from a loss of 707 million kronor at the same stage last year. Renault's pre-tax profit for the same period dropped by an alarming 86 per cent, to 1.03 billion francs, reflecting the dismal state of the European car market. Sales dropped by 8.3 per cent, to Fr 124.2 billion.

In the third quarter, Renault, which has coped better with the market downturn than other European volume car-producers, saw profits drop to Fr 302 million, 85 per cent down on the same quarter last year. Profits from financial operations and subsidiaries kept the company in the black, contributing Fr 452 million.

Volvo's operating profit after nine months was 445 million kronor, a dramatic turnround from the 1.52 billion kronor loss a year earlier. Turnover soared to 73.5 billion kronor, from 58.8 billion.

The Swedish company said it expected "further clarification" from the French government on the "golden share" Paris intends to retain in Renault-Volvo and on plans for the privatisation of Renault.

WALL STREET

New York — Wall Street shares traded lower in late morning, pulled down by weakness in bonds and a sharp fall in Chevron. The Dow Jones industrial average was down 21.52, at 3,682.83.

☐ **Tokyo** — The Nikkei average gained 57.61, to 18,166.32, aided by approval of the Nafta trade deal in the US. *(Reuter)*

	Nov 18 midday	Nov 17 close
AMP Inc	59⅞	59⅝
AMR Corp	69⅝	69¼
Abbott Labs	28⅝	28⅝
Aetna Life	59⅞	59⅝
Ahmanson (HF)	17¼	18
Air Prod & Chem	43⅝	43½
Albertson's	24	24
Alcan Alumnm	20⅝	20⅝
Alco Standard	47¼	48¼
Allied Signal	72⅝	72¼
Alum Co of Am	68¼	69¼
Amax Gold Inc	7⅛	7⅛
Amerada Hess	48⅝	48⅝
Amer Brands	33⅝	34⅛
Amer Cyanamid	52⅝	53
Amer El Power	35⅞	36¼
Amer Express	30⅝	31⅛
Amer Genl Corp	27⅛	27¼
Amer Home Pr	64⅛	64⅝
Amer Intl	88⅝	87⅛
Amer Stores	41	41
Amer T & T	56⅞	56⅞
Ameritech	78	78⅛
Amoco	55⅛	55
Anheuser-Busch	49⅝	49⅞
Apple Computer	33⅛	33⅞
Archer Daniels	22⅝	22⅛
Arkla	8	8
Armco	5⅞	6
Armstrong Wrld	48⅛	48⅛
Asarco	20	19⅞
Ashland Oil	34⅛	34⅛
Atl Richfield	109⅝	109⅝
Auto Data Pro	55⅞	55⅞
Avery Dennison	29⅝	29⅝
Avon Products	50⅝	49⅝
Baker Hughes	22⅞	24
Baltim Gas & El	24⅝	25
Banc One	36⅞	36⅝
BankAmerica	41⅛	41⅛
Bank of NY	54⅝	54⅛
Bankers Tr NY	75⅝	75⅝
Barnett Banks	38	38
Bausch & Lomb	52	52⅝
Baxter Intl	23⅝	23⅝
Bectn Dickinsn	36⅛	36⅝
Bell Atlantic	59⅝	60⅛
BellSouth	54⅝	55⅛
Black & Decker	20⅝	20⅝
Block (H&R)	38⅛	39⅝
Boeing	39⅝	40⅛
Boise Cascade	22⅝	22⅛
Borden Inc	15	14⅝
Bristol Myrs Sq	60⅝	61
Browning Ferris	23⅛	22⅝
Burlington Nthn	55⅞	55⅝
CBS	314⅝	308
CNA Financial	78⅛	78⅝
CPC Intl	47⅛	47⅝
CSX	82⅛	82⅝
Campbell Soup	41⅛	41⅛
Can Pacific	16⅛	17
Cptl Cities ABC	637⅛	639⅛
Cptl Holdings	36⅞	36⅛
Carolina Pwr	28⅝	28⅛
Caterpillar	87⅝	88
Central & SW	29⅞	29⅝
Champion Intl	31	31⅛
Chase Manhat	32⅛	31⅞
Chemical Bk	37⅝	37⅞
Chevron Corp	90⅝	93
Chrysler	55⅝	55⅝
Chubb Corp	77	76⅝
Cigna Corp	63⅝	64⅛
Citicorp	35	35⅛
Clorox	54⅛	54⅝
Coastal Corp	28⅝	28⅝
Coca Cola	42	42⅝
Colgate-Palmolive	58⅛	58
Columbia Gas	24⅝	24⅛
Commonw Ed	28⅝	28⅝
Compaq Comp	69	68⅛
Comp Ass Intl	42⅝	42⅝
Conagra	28⅝	27⅝
Cons Edison	31⅛	31⅛
Cons Nat Gas	46⅛	46⅛
Cons Rail	62⅛	62
Cooper Inds	53⅝	53
Corning Inc	26⅛	26⅛
Crown Cork	39	38⅝
Dana Corp	56⅛	56⅛
Dayton Hudson	73	73⅝
Deere	70⅝	72
Delta Air Lines	60⅝	60⅝
Deluxe Corp	34⅞	35
Detroit Edison	31⅛	31⅛
Digital Equip	37⅝	36⅝
Dillard Dept St	40⅝	40⅝
Disney (Walt)	39⅝	39⅝
Dominion Res	45⅝	45⅝
Donelley (RR)	27⅛	28
Dover Corp	58⅝	59⅝
Dow Chemical	57	56⅛
Dow Jones	35⅝	35⅛
Dresser	20⅝	20⅝
Duke Power	41⅛	41⅛
Dun & Bradstreet	64⅝	65⅝
Du Pont	47⅝	48
Eastman Kodak	61	61⅛
Eaton Corp	51⅛	51⅛

	Nov 18 midday	Nov 17 close
Emerson Elec	56⅛	56⅝
Engelhard Corp	25⅝	25⅛
Enron Corp	32⅛	32⅝
Entergy Corp	37	36⅛
Ethyl Corp	17⅛	17⅛
Exxon	63⅝	63⅛
FMC Corp	45⅝	45⅛
FPL Group	37⅛	37⅛
Federal Express	68⅛	68⅛
Fed Nat Mtge	75⅛	75⅝
First Chicago	44⅛	43⅛
First Interstate	57⅝	57⅛
First Union Rty	11⅛	11⅛
Fleet Finl Grp	31	30⅝
Fluor Corp	42⅝	42
Ford Motor	62⅛	62
GTE Corp	36⅝	36⅛
Gannett	53	52⅝
Gap Inc Del	40⅝	40⅝
Gen Dynamics	92⅝	93
Gen Electric	97	96⅛
Gen Mills	62	61⅛
Gen Motors	54⅛	53⅛
Gen Reinsurance	112⅛	111⅛
Gen Signal	35⅝	36
Genuine Parts	38⅛	38⅝
Georgia Pac	72⅝	72⅛
Gillette	63⅝	62⅛
Glaxo ADR	19⅛	19⅝
Goodrich (BF)	44⅝	44⅛
Goodyear Tire	42⅛	41
Grace (WR)	37⅛	37⅛
Grt Atl Pac Tea	28⅛	28⅝
Great Wstn Fin	18⅛	18⅛
Halliburton	35	36⅛
Harcourt General	38⅛	38⅝
Heinz (HJ)	37⅛	37⅛
Hercules	102⅛	102⅛
Hershey Foods	53⅛	53⅛
Hewlett Packard	74⅛	73⅛
Hilton Hotels	45⅝	46
Home Depot	43	43⅛
Homestake Mng	20⅛	20⅛
Honeywell	32	31⅛
Household Intl	35⅛	35⅛
Houston Inds	46⅛	47
Humana	16⅛	16⅛
ITT Corp	92⅝	92⅛
Illinois Tool	37⅛	37⅛
INCO	23⅛	23⅛
Ingersoll Rand	37⅝	38⅛
Inland Steel	34⅛	34⅛
Intel Corp	59⅛	58⅝
IBM	53	51⅛
Intl Flav & Fr	108⅛	108⅛
Intl Paper	64⅛	65⅛
James River Va	18⅛	18⅝
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	43⅝	43⅝
K Mart	22⅛	22⅛
Kellogg	59⅝	60⅛
Kerr-McGee	49⅛	49⅛
Kimberly-Clark	52⅝	52⅛
Knight-Ridder	55⅛	55
Lilly (Eli)	58⅝	58⅝
Limited Inc	22⅝	23⅛
Lin Brdcstng	110⅝	111⅛
Lincoln Nat	43⅛	43⅝
Litton	70⅛	69
Liz Claiborne	22⅝	22⅛
Lockheed Corp	69⅝	69⅝
Louisiana Pac	37⅛	39⅝
MCI Commun	25⅝	24⅛
Marriott Int	23⅝	24⅛
Marsh & McLen	80⅛	80⅛
Masco Corp	34⅛	34⅛
May Dept St	44⅛	44⅝
Maytag Corp	16⅛	16⅛
McCaw Cellular	52⅛	52⅛
McDonalds	57	56⅛
McDonnell D	106⅛	105
McGraw Hill	69⅝	70
Mead Corp	41⅛	41⅛
Medtronic	76⅛	76⅛
Mellon Bk	53⅛	54
Melville Corp	42⅝	42⅛
Merck Inc	34⅛	34
Merrill Lynch	89⅝	91
Minnesota Mine	107	107⅛
Mobil Corp	77⅛	77⅛
Monsanto	68⅝	68⅛
Morgan (JP)	69⅝	70
Motorola Inc	97⅛	99⅛
Natl Medical	11⅛	11⅛
Natl Semi	16	16⅛
Natl Service Ind	24⅛	23⅛
Navistar Int	26⅛	25⅛
NBD Bancorp	28⅛	29⅛
NY Times A	25	25⅛
Newmont Mng	55⅛	55⅛
Niag Mohawk	19⅛	19⅛
Nike B	50⅝	50⅝
NL Industries	5	5⅛
Nordstrom	35⅝	35⅛
Norfolk Sthrn	66⅛	66⅛
Nthn State Pwr	41⅛	41⅝
Norwest Corp	23	23⅛
Nynex Corp	42	42⅝
Occidental Pet	17⅛	17⅛
Ohio Edison	22	22⅛
Oracle Systems	31⅛	31⅛

	Nov 18 midday	Nov 17 close
Oryx Energy Co	22⅛	22⅛
Owens Corning	46	48⅛
PNC Financial	28⅛	28⅛
PPG Industries	70⅝	70⅛
Paccar Inc	66	66⅛
Pacificorp	19	18⅛
Pac Enterprises	24⅛	24⅛
Pac Gas & Elect	34	34⅛
Pac Telesis	57⅛	57⅝
Pall Corp	20⅛	20⅛
Panhandle East	21⅛	21⅛
Paramnt Comm	78⅛	77⅛
Parker Hannifin	36⅛	36⅛
Penney (JC)	53⅛	53⅛
Pennzoil	58⅝	57⅛
Pepsico	39⅝	39⅝
Pfizer	65⅝	66⅛
Phelps Dodge	43⅛	43⅛
Philadel Elec	27⅛	27⅛
Philip Morris	55⅝	55⅛
Phillips Pet	31⅛	31
Pitney Bowes	41⅛	41⅛
Polaroid	34⅛	35
PriceCostco	18⅝	18⅝
Primerica	40⅛	40⅝
Procter & Gmbl	55⅝	55⅝
Pub Serv E & G	31⅛	31⅛
Quaker Oats	71⅛	71⅛
Ralston Purina	37⅛	37⅝
Raychem Corp	35⅛	35⅛
Raytheon	61⅛	60
Reebok Intl	31	31⅛
Reynolds Metals	44⅛	44⅛
Roadway Srvcs	64⅛	65⅛
Rockwell Intl	33⅛	33⅛
Rohm & Haas	51⅛	52
Royal Dutch	103	102⅛
Rubbermaid	34⅛	34⅛
Safeco Corp	57⅝	58⅛
St Paul's Cos	87⅛	89⅛
Salomon Inc	43⅛	43⅛
Santa Fe Pac	20⅛	20⅛
Sara Lee Corp	27⅛	27⅛
Scecorp	20	20⅛
Schering Plough	67⅛	67⅛
Schlumberger	61⅛	62
Scott Paper	37⅛	37⅛
Seagram	27	27
Sears Roebuck	57⅛	57⅛
Shell Trans	61⅛	61⅛
Sherwin Wllms	34⅛	34⅛
Skyline Corp	17⅛	17⅛
Snap-On-Tools	37⅛	37⅛
Southern Co	43	43
Sthwestern Bell	42⅛	42⅛
Sprint Corp	33⅛	33⅛
Stanley Works	40	40⅛
Sun Company	30⅛	30⅛
Suntrust	43⅛	43⅛
Supervalu	34⅛	34⅛
Syntex Corp	18	18
Sysco Corp	29⅛	29
TRW Inc	63⅛	64
Tandem Comp	11⅛	11⅛
Tandy Corp	46⅛	46⅛
Telecom Corp	3⅛	3⅛
Teledyne	25⅛	25⅛
Temple Inland	47⅛	46⅛
Tenneco	49⅛	50⅛
Texaco	66⅛	66⅛
Texas Inst	61⅛	61⅛
Texas Utilities	43	43⅛
Textron	55⅛	55⅛
Time Warner	44⅛	45⅛
Times-Mirror	32⅛	32⅛
Timken	32⅛	32⅛
Torchmark	41⅛	42⅛
Toys R Us	40⅛	40⅛
Transamerica	54	54⅛
Travelers Corp	32⅛	32⅛
Tribune	55⅛	55⅛
Tyco Labs	48⅛	49
UAL Corp	140⅛	140
UST Inc	26⅛	26⅛
USX Marathon	18	18⅛
Unilever NV	112⅛	113
Union Camp	46⅛	46⅛
Union Carbide	20⅛	20⅛
Union Pacific	63⅛	63⅛
Unisys Corp	11⅛	11⅛
USAIR Group	14⅛	14
USF&G Corp	13⅛	13⅛
US Life	39⅛	39⅛
US West	46⅛	46⅛
United Tech	65⅛	65⅛
Unocal Corp	28⅛	28⅛
Upjohn	32	31⅛
VF Corp	43⅛	43⅛
WMX Tech	24⅛	24⅛
Wal-Mart Stores	29⅛	29⅛
Warner-Lambert	66⅛	67⅛
Wells Fargo	117⅛	116⅛
Westinghouse El	13⅛	13⅛
Weyerhaeuser	42⅛	42
Whirlpool	61⅛	61⅛
Whitman	16⅛	16⅛
Winn Dixie	54⅛	54⅛
Woolworth	22⅛	22⅛
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	41⅛	42⅛
Xerox	82⅛	82⅛

RECENT ISSUES

Abacus (140)	162	...
Abtrust Emrg Economics	90½	+½
-do- Wts	51	...
Allders (170)	185	-1
BSM (170)	160	...
BZW Endowment Fd (100)	51½	...
Cantab Phrmctcls (460)	440	...
CentreGold (125)	145	-2
Charles Sidney (110)	104	...
Cleveland Trust (100)	110	+1
Coal Invs	14½	...
Crest Packaging	134	...
Delian Lloyds Inv Tst (100)	97	...
Emerald Energy	1½	...
Finsbury Undrwrtng Inv	107	-1
Flem Chinese Inv Tst (100)	100	+1½
Flem Chinese Warrants	54	...
For & Col Emerg Mkts Wts	55	...
Gartmore Shared Eqty Tst	107	+1
Gartmore Shared Zero Pf	102¼	-½
HCG Lloyds Inv Tst (100)	99	...
HTR Japanese Smlr (100)	91	+1
HTR Japanese Warrants	48	+1
Hiscox Select Ins Fd (100)	108	...
London Fin & Inv Wrnts	12½	...
London Insrnce Mkt (100)	100½	...
Parkdean Leisure (120)	135	...
Rothmans Intl Units	421	+2
Roxboro (230)	244	+1
Scotia (290)	295	-5
Smaller Cos Inv Tst C (135)	141	...
Towry Law (190)	185	...
Ugland Intl	108	...
Vendome Luxury Units	309	...
Virtuality Group (170)	255	-1
Wiggins Group	3¼	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Ashtead n/p (280)	29	-1
Comac n/p (85)	7	...
Elliott (B) n/p (63)	3	-1
Eng & O'seas Props n/p (35)	1½	...
Ferromet n/p (¼)	1¼	...
Graystone n/p (11)	1½	...
IMC Inds n/p (3¼)	¼	...
Siebe n/p (485)	59	-6
Ugland n/p	8	...
Wilson Bowden n/p (375)	41	+2
Wyevale Grdn Cntrs n/p (152)	11	-2

FT-SE VOLUMES

ASDA Gp	25,000	Cadbury	751	MEPC	2,500	Scot Power	1,400
Abbey Natl	1,600	Caradon	952	Marks Spr	1,800	Sears	3,100
Alld-Lyons	1,300	Carlton Cms	2,300	NFC	322	Svrn Trent	426
Anglian W	124	Coats Vly	1,500	NatWst Bk	2,300	Shell Trans	4,600
Argyll Gp	10,000	Cm Union	2,600	Nat Power	3,900	Siebe	801
Arjo Wiggn	585	Courtaulds	2,300	Nth Wst W	477	SmKl Bch	2,500
AB Foods	722	Enterpr Oil	1,000	Nthrn Fds	1,100	Smith Nph	2,200
BAA	1,700	Forte	5,600	P & O	2,300	Southern Elec	430
BAT Inds	2,300	GRE	664	Pearson	831	Std Chartd	648
BOC	1,600	GUS	1,100	PowerGen	5,600	Sun Allnce	1,600
BP	7,300	Gen Acc	1,500	Prudential	3,900	TI Gp	1,300
BT	5,200	Gen Elec	5,500	RMC	124	TSB	2,900
BTR	9,100	Glaxo	6,300	RTZ	3,600	Tesco	13,000
Bk of Scot	517	Granada	467	Rank Org	1,800	Thames W	2,100
Barclays	3,300	Grand Met	3,000	Reckitt Col	565	Thrn EMI	427
Bass	1,800	Guinness	3,000	Redland	1,900	Tomkins	2,600
Blue Circle	3,900	HSBC	5,800	Reed Intl	1,100	Unilever	716
Boots	1,200	Hanson	9,300	Rentokil	1,600	Utd Bisc	801
Bowater	2,300	ICI	2,600	Reuters	677	Vodafone	1,100
Brit Aero	1,400	Inchcape	1,700	Rolls Royce	4,200	Warburg (SG)	850
Brit Airwys	4,000	Kingfisher	1,700	Ryl Ins	1,500	Wellcome	1,900
Brit Gas	11,000	Ladbroke	6,500	Ryl Bk Scot	1,800	Whitbd 'A'	2,100
Brit Steel	12,000	Land Secs	725	Sainsbury	5,100	Wlms Hld	594
Burmah Cast	286	Legal & Gn	680	Schroders	165	Wolseley	584
Cable Wire	5,500	Lloyds Bk	5,400	Scot & New	1,500	Zeneca	1,600

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones .... 3682.83 (-21.52)
S&P Composite .... 462.83 (-1.98)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Av'ge .... 18166.32 (+57.61)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng .... 9335.43 (-171.55)

Amsterdam:
CBS Tendency .... 137.5 (+0.5)

Sydney: AO .... 2108.0 (+3.8)

Frankfurt:
DAX .... 2085.34 (+13.62)

FT 30 share: .... 2371.5 (+7.4)

Brussels:
General .... 7141.82 (+31.21)

Paris: CAC .... 602.16 (+4.71)

Zurich: SKA Gen .... 626.30 (+2.20)

London:
FT A All-Share .... 1539.37 (+3.32)
FT 500 .... 1648.22 (+4.26)
FT Gold Mines .... 245.6 (+3.1)
FT Fixed Interest .... 124.15 (+0.37)
FT Govt Secs .... 103.84 (+0.30)
Bargains 27609
SEAQ Volume 706.3m
USM (Datastrm) .... 149.32 (-0.20)

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
November 8	November 19	February 10	February 21

Call options were taken out on 18/11/93: Betterware, Crossroads Oil, Tex Hldgs, Tiphook. **Puts**: Amurex, Avesco, Betterware, *Blue Circle*, *Crockfords*, *Crossroads Oil*, Enterprise Comp, Hanson Wts, Ramco Oil, Southend Props, Tadpole Tech, Tullow Oil, Tuskar Res. **Puts & Calls**: Betterware, Medeva.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100	Dec 93	3136.0	3153.0	3123.0	3133.5	13118
Previous open interest: 67335	Mar 94	3160.0	3169.0	3146.5	3152.0	1337
Three Month Sterling	Dec 93	94.67	94.69	94.60	94.63	44359
Previous open interest: 376820	Mar 94	94.82	94.84	94.78	94.79	16427
	Jun 94	94.83	94.84	94.78	94.80	7396
Three Mth Eurodollar	Dec 93	96.50	96.51	96.50	96.50	56
Previous open interest: 13142	Mar 94	96.45	96.45	96.43	96.43	123
Three Mth Euro DM	Dec 93	93.95	93.97	93.94	93.95	37642
Previous open interest: 736078	Mar 94	94.67	94.68	94.63	94.65	31382
Long Gilt	Dec 93	116-02	116-08	115-24	115-28	73465
Previous open interest: 111816	Mar 94	115-11	115-14	115-03	115-06	2621
Japanese Govmt Bond	Dec 93	115.20	115.24	115.17	115.19	162
	Mar 94	114.46	114.53	114.42	114.46	1987
German Gov Bd Bund	Dec 93	100.32	100.45	100.21	100.26	102370
Previous open interest: 189815	Mar 94	100.42	100.52	100.32	100.34	4031
German Gov Bd Bobl	Dec 93	103.07	103.15	103.02	103.05	5609
Previous open interest: 22927	Mar 94				103.17	0
Three month ECU	Dec 93	93.39	93.42	93.37	93.40	1374
Previous open interest: 34467	Mar 94	94.09	94.13	94.08	94.11	2168
Euro Swiss Franc	Dec 93	95.64	95.64	95.60	95.63	2364
Previous open interest: 55086	Mar 94	96.13	96.15	96.11	96.14	3458
Italian Govmt Bond	Dec 93	114.80	115.04	114.45	114.75	36063
Previous open interest: 104650	Mar 94	114.80	114.85	114.40	114.64	2819

MONEY MARKETS

Exchange index compared with 1985 was up at 81.0 (day's range 80.9-81.0).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Nov 18	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.8310-2.8380	2.8347-2.8378	par-⅛ds	⅛-⅜ds
Brussels	53.42-53.75	53.56-53.73	9-15ds	26-35ds
Copenhagen	9.9871-10.0421	10.0083-10.0390	1½-2⅞ds	5⅜-7⅛ds
Dublin	1.0548-1.0598	1.0553-1.0572	4-7ds	15-22ds
Frankfurt	2.5217-2.5290	2.5263-2.5290	par-⅛ds	⅜-⅛ds
Lisbon	256.23-258.15	257.14-258.15	90-201ds	300-405ds
Madrid	203.23-204.19	203.52-204.06	56-70ds	176-195ds
Milan	2464.85-2471.50	2464.92-2469.05	5-7ds	19-22ds
Montreal	1.9348-1.9567	1.9502-1.9556	0.31-0.21pr	0.53-0.41pr
New York	1.4764-1.4807	1.4791-1.4798	0.32-0.30pr	0.78-0.75pr
Oslo	10.9268-10.9735	10.9468-10.9727	1pr-par	1¾pr-par
Paris	8.7277-8.7694	8.7518-8.7641	⅛-1ds	2-2⅛ds
Stockholm	12.1596-12.2572	12.2114-12.2468	1⅜-2⅝ds	3⅞-5⅞ds
Tokyo	157.64-158.73	158.34-158.56	⅛-⅜pr	1⅛-1⅛pr
Vienna	17.7472-17.7910	17.7678-17.7910	⅛-1⅛ds	1¾-3⅛ds
Zurich	2.2131-2.2227	2.2201-2.2227	⅛-⅛pr	⅜-⅜pr

Source: Extel. Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.4719-1.4745
Australia dollar	2.2242-2.2275
Bahrain dinar	0.551-0.563
Brazil cruzeiro *	303.72-305.12
Cyprus pound	0.756-0.766
Finland marka	8.5545-8.7945
Greece drachma	357.5-364.5
Hong Kong dollar	11.4004-11.4097
India rupee	45.89-46.85
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4365-0.4465
Malaysia ringgit	3.7643-3.7685
Mexico peso	4.58-4.73
New Zealand dollar	2.6860-2.6928
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.4795-5.6055
Singapore dollar	2.3539-2.3570
S Africa rand (fin)	6.2878-6.3366
S Africa rand (com)	4.9792-4.9871
U A E dirham	5.363-5.457

Barclays Bank GTS * *Lloyds Bank*

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Australia	1.5069-1.5080
Austria	12.01-12.02
Belgium (Com)	36.26-36.30
Canada	1.3195-1.3205
Denmark	6.7895-6.7995
France	5.9272-5.9372
Germany	1.7138-1.7148
Hong Kong	7.7291-7.7301
Ireland	1.3956-1.3976
Italy	1670.8-1672.3
Japan	106.97-107.07
Malaysia	2.5504-2.5514
Netherlands	1.9223-1.9233
Norway	7.421-7.431
Portugal	174.3-174.6
Singapore	1.5948-1.5958
Spain	137.70-137.75
Sweden	8.2619-8.2819
Switzerland	1.5037-1.5047

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6 Finance Hse 6
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 6¼ Low 3 Week fixed: 5⅛
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 5⅜; 3 mth 5⅛. Sell: 2 mth 5⅛; 3 mth: 5.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	
Sterling Money Rates:	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛
Interbank:	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛

Overnight: open 6, close 2.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Local Authority Deps:	5⅛	n/a	5⅛	5⅛	5⅛
Sterling CDs:	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛
Dollar CDs:	3.07-3.04	n/a	3.33-3.28	3.37-3.34	3.60-3.56
Building Society CDs:	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Oct 29, 1993 Agreed rates Nov 24, 1993 to Dec 25, 1993 Scheme III: 7.06%. Reference rate Oct 1, 1993 to Oct 29, 1993 Scheme IV & V: 5.82%.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	3⅛-2⅞	3⅛-2⅞	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-2⅞
Deutschemark:	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6	5⅞-5⅞	7-6
French Franc:	6⅞-6⅞	6⅞-6⅞	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6	7⅛-6⅛
Swiss Franc:	4⅛-4⅛	4⅛-4⅛	4⅛-4⅛	4⅛-4⅛	5-4
Yen:	2⅛-2⅛	2⅛-2⅛	2⅛-2⅛	2⅛-2⅛	2⅛-1⅛

GOLD AND PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $375.70-376.10 Close: $377.00-377.50 High: $378.00-378.50 Low: $373.25-373.75 Krugerrand: $376.00-379.00 (£253.50-255.50)
Sovereigns: Old $86.00-89.00 (£58.00-60.00) New $86.00-89.00 (£58.00-60.00)
Platinum: $379.10 (£256.70) Silver: $4.69 (£3.165) Palladium: $129.50 (£87.70)

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Puts Jan	Puts Apr	Puts Jul
Alld Lyon	550	36	47	53	13	21	23½
(*573½)	600	12½	23	29	42½	46½	61½
Argyll	260	22	32	36½	8	12½	19½
(*276)	280	12	22	26½	15½	22½	30
ASDA	50	7	8½	11	3	4	5
(*52)	60	2½	4½	6½	8½	10½	11½
Boots	500	35	48	56½	9½	17	26
(*517½)	550	10½	22½	31	37	44	52
Br Airways	390	32	42	49	12	17	25½
(*410)	420	15½	26	34	27	32½	42
BP	330	25	31½	38	7½	12	15½
(*344½)	360	9	16½	23	21½	26½	30
Br Steel	120	9	15	17	8	11½	13½
(*120½)	130	5	9½	13	14	17	19½
C & W	450	36	48½	59	13	23	24
(*473)	475	23	34	45	24	32½	35½
CU	600	27½	36½	45	16½	30	32
(*605)	650	7½	16	25½	50	61½	62½
ICI	657	41	—	—	14½	—	—
(*675)	691	20½	—	—	25½	—	—
Kingfishr	650	49	64½	72½	11	21½	31½
(*679)	700	20	36	46½	36	44½	56
Land Sec	700	38½	54½	62½	12	18	30½
(*728)	750	13	28	35½	38	44½	56½
M & S	390	32½	41½	46	6	10½	15½
(*412½)	420	14	23½	29	18½	22½	29
Nat West	550	30	38	48½	10	30	35
(*558½)	600	9	17	27	48	61½	65
Sainsbury	360	39	46	54	7½	13	19½
(*385½)	390	17	29½	35½	20½	26½	34½
Shell	650	54½	61½	70	6	15½	20
(*692½)	700	22	31	41½	23	36½	43
SmKl Bch	390	38	48	57	11	19½	26
(*411½)	420	21½	33	43	25	34	40
Storehse	180	23½	27	31	3½	6½	9½
(*197½)	200	9½	14	19½	12	15½	19½
Trafalgar	90	—	13½	15½	4½	6	9
(*99½)	100	4½	9	11	9½	12	14½
Unilever	1100	47½	67	86	24½	44	52½
(*1120½)	1150	25½	41½	61	52½	71	79
Zeneca	750	50½	62½	74½	16½	36½	45
(*774½)	800	23	36	50½	42½	65	72
	Series	**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**	**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**
Grnd Met	390	20½	34	43	18	22½	26
(*405½)	420	12	20½	28½	34½	39	43
Ladbroke	140	27	29	32½	5	10½	11½
(*159)	160	14½	17½	22	12	19½	22
Utd Bisc	330	25	28½	34	14	23	27
(*333½)	360	11½	15	22	32½	43	47

	Series	Calls Nov	Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Puts Nov	Puts Jan	Puts Apr
BAA	900	28½	44½	67	3	21	31
(*922½)	950	2½	22	42	31½	45½	57
Thames W	500	22½	35	47	1½	9½	14½
(*521)	550	1	11	21½	31½	35	39
	Series	**Nov**	**Feb**	**May**	**Nov**	**Feb**	**May**
BAT Ind	500	7½	29	35	7	24	34
(*500½)	525	2	—	—	28	—	—
BTR	360	8	22	26	3½	12½	19½
(*364½)	390	1	9	13½	28	31½	37
Br Aero	420	11	36½	48	8	33	40½
(*423)	460	1	18	31½	42	57	64½
Br Telecm	460	13	23	32	2	15	18½
(*470½)	500	1	7	14	32	41½	43½
Cadbury	453	17½	32½	37	2	12	22
(*467)	493	1½	13½	17	29	34	45
Guinness	430	31	43½	52	1	10½	17½
(*449½)	460	2½	18½	28½	15	28	38
GEC	330	10½	20½	27½	1½	11	14½
(*338½)	360	1	7½	13½	24½	30	32
Hanson	230	4	13	17	3½	12	16
(*231)	300	1	5½	9	21	25½	29
LASMO	130	5	15½	19½	2	9½	14½
(*132)	140	1½	10½	13	10	15½	19½
Lucas	160	18	24½	28	1	6	9
(*176)	180	2	12	15½	6½	15½	18½
Pilkingtn	140	12	16	20½	1	7	9½
(*150)	160	1	2	11½	9½	18½	21½
Prudential	330	10½	24	27½	2½	11	18
(*337½)	360	1	9½	13½	24	28½	36
Redland	501	46½	62	68½	1	9	21
(*545½)	550	6½	30	38½	11	26	44½
Royal Ins	288	16½	27½	—	1½	9	—
(*303)	317	1½	12½	—	17	24	—
Tesco	180	18	25	29½	1	5	11
(*196½)	200	2½	12	19½	7	11	21
Vodafone	500	39½	60½	75½	1½	18½	27½
(*535)	550	6	32½	50	19	43	52
Williams	300	29	36½	40½	1	9½	11½
(*325)	330	3½	17	22½	7	16½	25

FT-SE INDEX (*3126)

	3000	3050	3100	3150	3200	3250
Calls						
Nov	127	77	29	1½	1	1
Dec	157	118	63	53	32	18
Jan	181	142	110	81	59	41
Feb	190	162	131	101	79	57
Jun	237	—	176	—	126	—
Puts						
Nov	1	1	1½	28	77	127
Dec	25	35	51	72	102	140
Jan	44	55	72	94	124	158
Feb	54	67	86	107	135	166
Jun	84	—	121	—	171	—

	Series	Calls Dec	Calls Mar	Calls Jun	Puts Dec	Puts Mar	Puts Jun
Abbey Natl	390	25½	35½	39½	4½	14	17½
(*408½)	420	7½	18½	23	19	30	33½
Amstrad	40	5½	8	9½	2	4	5
(*43)	45	3	5½	7½	4½	7	7½
Barclays	550	40½	57	61½	5½	17½	24½
(*581½)	600	11	28	35½	27½	42½	48
Blue Circ	300	20½	31	39½	6	13	22
(*311)	330	5½	16	21½	23	29	38½
Br Gas	300	29	36	40	2	5	6½
(*326½)	330	7	16½	21	11½	16	23
Dixons	260	17½	27	34	7½	16	20½
(*268½)	280	7½	17½	23½	19	25½	30½
Forte	240	9½	21½	24	8½	16	22
(*240½)	260	3	11½	14½	23	23	34
Hillsdwn	140	15	21½	24	3	7	12
(*151)	160	3½	10½	13½	12½	17	24
Lonrho	130	9	15½	18½	9½	12	14
(*132½)	140	4½	11	14½	11	17½	19½
Sears	110	12	15½	17	1½	5	5½
(*119)	120	4½	9	11½	5	9	10½
Thrn EMI	900	64½	79½	97½	7	22½	30
(*949½)	950	27½	47½	68	23	44½	52½
Tomkins	220	15½	25	29½	3	9	11½
(*234)	240	6	14½	18½	12	19	27
TSB	200	23½	27½	30	1½	6	9½
(*219½)	220	8	14½	19	7½	14½	17½
Wellcome	600	62½	85½	98	8	21½	31
(*648½)	650	30	56	69½	26	44½	53½
	Series	**Dec**	**Apr**	**Jul**	**Dec**	**Apr**	**Jul**
Glaxo	650	70	57	77	24½	51½	61
(*652)	700	11½	37	56½	57	80½	90
HSBC	700	47	72	82	11	35	45
(*730½)	750	16½	45	57	33	61½	71
Reuter	1650	54½	109½	141	45	89	108½
(*1667)	1700	32	84½	115½	70½	116	133½
	Series	**Dec**	**Feb**	**May**	**Dec**	**Feb**	**May**
R-Royce	156	14	20½	—	3	6½	—
(*167)	176	4½	10½	—	13	17	—
	Series	**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**	**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**
Fisons	140	14	22	25½	5	10½	15½
(*146)	160	4½	12½	17	17	21½	29
	Series	**Nov**	**Feb**	**May**	**Nov**	**Feb**	**May**
Eastn Elc	550	38½	49	59	1	10½	15
(*586½)	600	2½	19½	31	17	33	38
	Series	**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**	**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**
Natl Pwr	390	24½	35½	42	4	10½	16½
(*408)	420	8	19	25	17½	24½	31
Scot Pwr	390	23½	30½	38	4	11	17½
(*407½)	420	7	15½	22½	18	25½	28½

November 18, 1993 Tot: 30059 Call: 21860 Put: 15199 FT-SE Call: 6791 Put: 7962
*Underlying security price.

COMMODITIES

GNI REPORT: Overnight buying by Middle East and Indian investors pushed silver to the highest level since September. Gold meanwhile is lagging, being restrained by concerns of producer selling above the $380 level. This is acting as an anchor on silver, but if a breach is made, then some traders feel that the precious metal complex could enjoy another surge.

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Dec	976-975	Mar	964-962
Mar	1019-1018	May	986-985
May	1006-1004	Jul	990-989
Jul	1005-1003	Sep	993-992
Sep	1002-1001		
Dec	982-981		Volume: 7972

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Nov	1295-1293	Jul	1229-1225
Jan	1300-1290	Sep	1222-1220
Mar	1255-1254	Nov	1229-1220
May	1229-1228		Volume: 4944

NO.7 PREMIUM RAW SUGAR (6.00pm)

		Oct	10.90-11.03
Spot: 257.70		Jan	unq
Mar	10.63-10.68	Mar	unq
May	10.90-10.95	May	unq
Jul	11.12-11.20		Volume: 210

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Oct	275.4-72.5
Spot: 296.0		Dec	275.4-71.6
Mar	280.5-79.5	Mar	275.4-74.0
May	282.5-80.8	May	281.9-76.0
Aug	287.0-84.5		Volume: 965

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
Average fatstock prices at representative markets on November 18

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB	70.99	96.21	118.76
(+/-)	-1.90	+2.65	-1.24
Eng/Wales	70.93	96.38	117.98
(+/-)	-1.90	+2.87	-2.02
(%)	-36.8	-13.1	-19.8
Scotland	68.97	95.21	123.96
(+/-)	-0.43	+2.54	+3.67
(%)	+15.3	-28.3	-35.0

LONDON MEAT FUTURES
Live Pig (/kg)

	Open	Close		Open	Close
Aug		unq	Mar		unq
Sep		unq			Volume: 0

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)

Nov	97.30
Jan	99.35
Mar	101.15
May	103.15
Jun	104.15
	Volume: 182

BARLEY (close £/t)

Nov	102.00
Jan	103.70
Mar	105.85
May	107.75
Sep	92.00
	Volume: 7

HI-PRO SOYA (close £/t)

Aug	unq
Oct	
Dec	
Feb	
Apr	
	Volume: 0

POTATO

(£/t)	Open	Close
Mar	unq	107.0
Apr	91.0	91.3
May	105.0	106.3
		Volume: 15

RUBBER
No 1 RSS Cif (p/k)
Dec 60.75-61.25

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm): Following Wednesday's surge, a slight correction drove prices back down.

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	15.40	-0.20
Brent 15 day (Dec)	15.60	-0.20
Brent 15 day (Jan)	16.00	-0.15
W Texas Intermediate (Dec)	16.90	-0.15
W Texas Intermediate (Jan)	17.30	-0.10

PRODUCTS ($/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Gas 15	171 (+1)	173 (+1)
Gasoil EEC	169 (+2)	170 (+2)
Non EEC IH Dec	175 (+2)	176 (+3)
Non EEC IH Jan	174 (+1)	175 (+1)
3.5 Fuel Oil	59 (-1)	60 (-1)
Naphtha	150 (+1)	152 (+2)

IPE FUTURES
GNI Ltd

GAS OIL

Dec	168.25-68.50	Mar	162.75 SLR
Jan	166.25-66.50	Apr	161.25-61.50
Feb	164.75 SLR	May	160.75-61.25
			Vol: 21329

BRENT (6.00pm)

Jan	16.02-16.03	Apr	16.60-16.66
Feb	16.26-16.28	May	16.73-16.90
Mar	16.45-16.48		Vol: 16375

UNLEADED GASOLINE

Dec	162.25-63.75	Mar	165.00 BID
Jan	163.00-66.00	Apr	175.00-80.00
Feb	163.00 BID		Vol: 0

BIFFEX
GNI Ltd ($10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Nov 93	1280	1270	1290
Dec 93	1280	1270	1276
Jan 94	1290	1276	1293
Apr 94	1305	1290	1300

Vol: 154 lots. Open int'st: 2788 Index 1294 -6

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE Rudolf Wolff

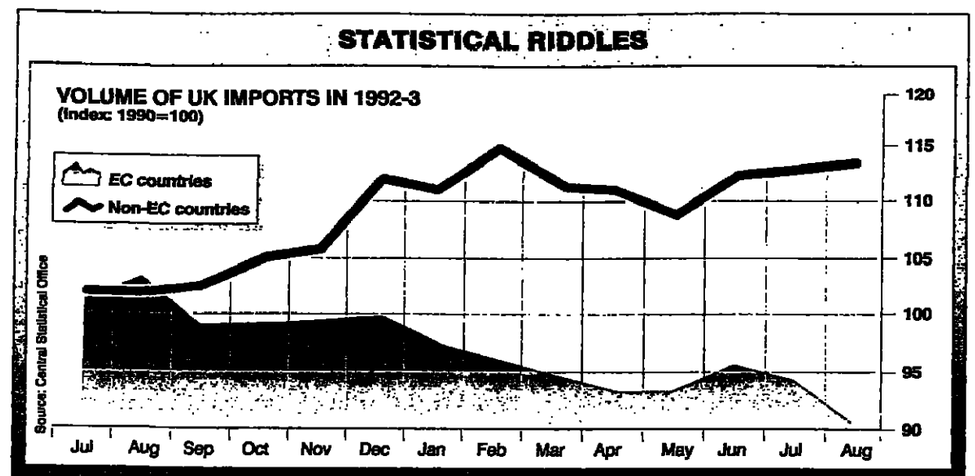
(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	1619.0-1620.0	1641.5-1642.0	1475650
Lead ($/tonne)	400.50-401.00	414.00-414.50	113475
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	931.00-931.50	947.50-948.00	606625
Tin ($/tonne)	4600.0-4603.0	4650.0-4651.0	10315
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1039.5-1040.0	1060.5-1061.0	116600
Nickel ($/tonne)	4610.0-4615.0	4675.0-4680.0	35173

هكذا من الأصل

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Unreliable figures could leave Clarke in the dark

The government's official economic statistics may be in need of a health warning. Janet Bush looks at the implications for this month's Budget



The Chancellor's Budget judgment relies heavily not only on the sensitivity of his political antennae but also on the accuracy of his advisers on the state of the economy at a time when there is more than usual concern about the quality of the statistics available.

Kenneth Clarke is, we are told, leaving key final decisions on the shape of his package until the last two weeks, partly so he can take into account the most up-to-date economic evidence. But the Bank of England, no less, has recently expressed deep concerns about some economic statistics, notably on trade, which have a knock-on effect on growth estimates. It hardly inspires confidence that, offered the apparent opportunity of a much longed-for low inflation recovery, senior members of the economic establishment have little faith that policy judgments are being made on the basis of what is actually happening "out there".

To its great credit, the CSO is the first to acknowledge the shortcomings of some of the statistical series that it publishes and is generally thought to offer the best service of any statistical agency in Europe. Michael Saunders, chief UK economist at Salomon Brothers, the US investment bank, said: "Although the figures available to the Chancellor aren't that good, he has at least as good an idea of what is happening in the economy — and probably better — than any other finance minister in Europe."

Having given the CSO its due, there are clearly huge problems. The most heavily publicised statistical black hole is in Britain's trade with the rest of the European Community, which accounts for about two thirds of total trade. Since the introduction of the new Europe-wide Intrastat system, which relies on VAT returns from companies rather than records from HM Customs and Excise, trade figures have been an obvious nonsense, a fact that CSO statisticians openly acknowledge.

July's visible trade deficit with the whole world, the first overall figures since December, was originally reported as £1.5 billion. It was revised a month later to £1.1 billion. More dramatic, however, was the figure for August, when the trade deficit fell by more than half to £400 million.

The most erratic element of the figures was on the import side. While imports from the non-EC have been rising, quite natural when demand is recovering, imports from the EC have been moving, quite dramatically, in the opposite direction. The EC picture of much weaker imports makes no sense when other economic statistics suggest manufacturing exports are decelerating, because of recession on the Continent, but that British consumers are beginning to spend again — a large proportion of consumers' money goes on imported goods.

The CSO statistician in charge of trade figures said openly that it is "difficult to link the import figures into any kind of reasonable picture about economic activity". He also said that the teething problems of the Intrastat system will not be permanently solved for another two to three years.

These huge problems with trade statistics mean it is well nigh impossible to measure growth accurately. The CSO statistician acknowledged not only that today's third quarter gross domestic product figures will include a "mechanical assumption" on trade with the EC in September, but that GDP figures will have to rely on an ill-informed estimate of exports and imports for some considerable time. In that context, arguments about whether growth will be 1.75 per cent or 2 per cent this year are almost ridiculous.

The CSO, which at least tried to collate some figures on trade far earlier than most of its European counterparts, is powerless to do anything about what is essentially a flawed data collection system. But there are other statistical minefields that have ill-served any attempt accurately, to describe the course of recovery.

Take the CSO's figures for manufacturing output. In August, the CSO estimated that manufacturing could be growing by as much as 5 per cent a year. In September, having changed the way it calculates the deflators used for translating value into volume of exports, it estimated that annual growth was running at only about 1.5 per cent. First-quarter growth was revised down to 1.2 per cent instead of 2.1 per cent, dashing hopes of an export led recovery. The seasonal adjustment, that most troublesome part of statistics, is the culprit in many areas of mooted inaccuracy, not least because the process involves a huge element of subjective judgment. Take the employment department's figures for self-employment, heavily seasonally adjusted. The latest figure yesterday for the increase of self-employed people was put at 75,000. As Peter Warburton, of Robert Fleming, points out (self-professedly speechless), this is much higher than the figures recorded at the height of the boom in 1988-9 when the quarterly average was 64,000.

Mr Warburton blames this on seasonal adjustment problems, but others have always had the suspicion that the government can bend statistics to its will. Ian Maclean, of the Statistics Users' Council, argues against the conspiracy theorists (the lies, damned lies and statistics brigade), saying most statistical problems are technical.

But there are other problems of presentation and emphasis that represent a conspiracy between the government, which inevitably tries to put a positive gloss on its economic performance, and the economic press, which allows ministers to get away with it.

The headline unemployment figure, the latest released yesterday showing a seasonally adjusted fall of 49,000 in October, is known in economics circles to be almost entirely meaningless, but the headline figure still gets front-page coverage and plaudits from ministers. Even employment department officials said yesterday that the October fall was probably anomalous and could not be expected every month. Mr Warburton, who looks at the workforce in employment series — which has been falling even as the headline rate has declined — said: "The headline figure is valueless in terms of real content and it is difficult, from other labour market indicators, to arrive at any other conclusion than that this economy is still losing jobs." The headline total measures those allowed to claim benefit, not those out of work.

> 'Since the introduction of Intrastat, trade figures have been an obvious nonsense, a fact CSO statisticians openly acknowledge'

There are whole areas where economic statistics are patchy, at best. The services sector, which accounts for two thirds of Britain's economy, is notorious for this. Small businesses are inadequately reflected in national statistics. Britain does not compile figures for capacity utilisation, and so on. But probably the biggest shortcoming of official economic statistics is their bias towards the big picture: the macro rather than the micro economy. There has often been mystification among we members of the public when ministers talk enthusiastically about steady recovery, thumping falls in unemployment, buoyant retail sales and rising confidence. The reality on the ground, in households or in business, often appears diametrically different from that described by the government.

Part of the reason for this is that the government concentrates its attention on broad brush statistics, which often fail to pick up detailed information on what is going on in the economy. Most damaging is the lack of detailed statistics that would be useful for businesses wanting to monitor their competitiveness and market positioning.

Mr Maclean has long campaigned for a more detailed breakdown of production by product, which would enable companies to judge where their main competition lay and what products, for example, faced the most import penetration. In Europe, up to 10,000 different product categories are reported monthly while Britain only breaks down around 2,000 product groups. Under pressure from the EC that will change. Britain will have around 6,000 categories but the figures will only be released annually, virtually useless for day-to-day management.

Even the DTI complains that it cannot get the same detailed business information in Britain than it can on the Continent and is therefore ill-placed to help British companies to develop their business plans. The problem, Mr Maclean believes, is one of culture. British statistics are geared primarily towards government policymakers, not British businesses.

Culture, or ideology? Detailed production figures were virtually scrapped in the 1980s when deregulation was the clarion cry of prominent right wingers like John Redwood (and still is, according to the Queen's Speech). Business was not just left alone but left in the dark. In that, it has at least something in common with the Chancellor.

TEMPUS

British Home Chores

THE miracle recovery stories that inflated retail shares earlier this year look rather less astounding in black and white. Storehouse may feel proud that Mothercare has captured another 2 per cent of the pushchair market, but this is not the sort of event that will reverse the group's fortunes overnight.

Despite all the advances of the last two years, British Home Stores still looks a perennial underperformer. Sales per square foot are unlikely to rise above £200 this year, less than half the level of Marks and Spencer. Like M&S, BhS's prices and gross margins are coming under pressure but, unlike its powerful rival, it seems unable to generate the additional revenue to make lower prices worthwhile.

The group's latest answer to such lacklustre trading is opening BhS stores in more promising areas. While it must gladden the hearts of the staff to see Storehouse back on the growth track, it is not a solution for BhS's long tail of underperforming stores in unattractive sites. The new One Up budget store conversions may eliminate some of the worst offenders, but it will take a long time to reposition such a sprawling retail chain effectively.

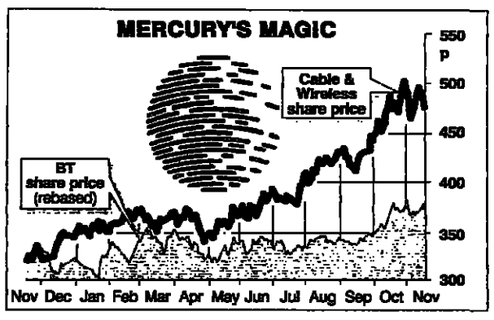
A decent Christmas should still enable the group to cover the current 5p dividend more than twice and end the year with net cash, allowing some much needed dividend growth. The shares have plummeted since the gloomy trading statement in September and now stand on a modest 5 per cent premium to the stores sector. This more accurately reflects the task of turning BhS around and the likely speed of the recovery.

C&W

CABLE and Wireless will be hard pressed to find a business that will ever match the performance of Hong Kong Telecom, which generated a staggering £260 million in cash in the first half. Given its geographic constraints, the monopoly telecoms business is doing well to have added 6 per cent to its subscriber base since last year, but the 43 per cent surge in profits can be attributed to a 23 per cent rise in traffic fuelled by the colony's continuing boom.

Back home, C&W has had to fight to add to its market share with a 7 per cent price cut, and it shows in Mercury's 5 per cent profits growth, although the company promises a stronger second half with the reduction in interconnect fees. A resumption of pension fund contributions and the costs of problems on a North Sea contract also spoilt the picture.

Cable and Wireless faces more complex problems in keeping the momentum going. In attacking the cellular market, Mercury will be entering another price battle with established rivals and there is as yet little evidence that multimedia will benefit providers of networks as much as suppliers of information. C&W's real need is a market in which the bounty from Hong Kong can be spent profitably. Scattered across the globe by a colonial inheritance, the group has no power base other than Hong Kong, in which it dominates, and the promise of China still looks distant.



British Gas

THE losses British Gas reports for its summer quarter are never particularly educational but this year's figures do help remind investors about the issues facing Michael Heseltine as he weighs up the group's future.

The speed of the onset of competition continues to outstrip estimates because of the dynamism of independent suppliers. The group has already lost 22 per cent of the top end of the tariff market, even though this market was only opened to competition in August last year.

British Gas likes to publicise the loss of profits due to regulatory pressures as a stick to beat Ofgas with, but at £184 million in the first nine months it is enough to make the strongest free-market supporters among its shareholders blanche. At least the worst of the losses from the UK contract market should have now passed since the group's market share has dropped to 34 per cent and cannot fall much further.

The speed at which the independent sector can capture a share when the government opens up the market shows that British Gas will have no period of grace if the government does decide to restrict its monopoly further or remove it entirely. This, more than ever, calls for an even-handed decision from Mr Heseltine — as well as a speedy one to end the uncertainty that has dogged the group and the share price for more than a year.

Whitbread

THERE are few consumer groups in these cautious days where the question of acquisitions burns as fiercely as it does at Whitbread. The decision of most of the Whitbread Investment Company shareholders to accept Whitbread's share offer rather than cash should leave the group with net cash by the year end, a situation almost unheard of among the major brewers.

Whitbread has ambitious plans for the development of its existing businesses, particularly its restaurant and hotel chains. But the group is generating enough money internally to finance these, particularly as it still has almost 1,000 tenanted pubs to sell.

Spotting the right acquisition for Whitbread is not easy. The group has sensibly refused to pay high premiums for Chef & Brewer or Harvester, but there are few businesses of this size in the pub or restaurant market, and fewer are for sale. The group may bid for Boddingtons or one of the other pub groups in the former WIC umbrella, but this would hardly be a strategic step change.

The question of acquisitions should not overshadow the growth potential in Whitbread's existing businesses, particularly its restaurants. Since so many of the group's brands are owned by other companies it is heartening to see it develop one of its own in Brewers Fayre. Further restaurant initiatives would not go amiss in case Pepsi one day decides to reclaim Pizza Hut.

Whitbread's strong cash position gives it better scope for dividend growth. This in particular should ensure that the re-rating of the group, which began last month with the decision to enfranchise, should continue even while the question of acquisitions is still unanswered.

BUSINESS LETTERS

Electricity users get good deal

From the Chief Executive, Association of Independent Electricity Producers

Sir, Apparently there has been more "intense lobbying" by the largest users of electricity ("Power generators face monopolies enquiry", November 11). For many months, the biggest customers have argued that they are paying too much for their electricity. Their lobbying power is impressive but their assertions are seldom questioned.

Before privatisation of electricity and for one year afterwards, they were subsidised at the expense of other consumers. Since 1991, unlike other customers, they have been able to buy their power competitively, by contract or direct from the electricity pool. This means that they purchase electricity for a fraction of the price that smaller businesses and domestic consumers pay. They also argue that UK electricity prices are less favourable than those of their competitors. But, recent surveys have shown that only a few countries enjoy lower industrial electricity prices than Britain.

In bringing a commercial approach to electricity generation, Britain has led the world and it will pay off. The annual report of the electricity industry's regulator (Offer) has shown that most customers have gained from privatisation. We should not lose sight of this when a powerful lobby tries to improve its negotiating position by using political pressure and press headlines.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID PORTER
(Chief Executive),
Association of Independent Electricity Producers,
1st Floor,
41 Whitehall, SW1.

Change for the better at BSI

From Baron Keith of Castleacre

Sir, I cannot accept the view expressed by Viscount Weir (Letters, November 11) that BSI is in crisis. It is not. BSI is going through a period of extensive change designed to improve its operations thereby giving better value to both its members and industry. It also hopes for a better partnership with government.

As we all know, change is a difficult process to manage. BSI recognises that, in its eagerness to get things right, it may have created an element of anxiety amongst certain of its members. Members can rest assured that BSI intends to put this right.

BSI sincerely hopes that with the co-operation of its members, industry and government, it can move towards its goal of becoming a world-class organisation geared towards improving the competitiveness of UK plc.

Yours faithfully,
KEITH of CASTLEACRE,
(President)
BSI (British Standards Institution),
2 Park Street, W1.

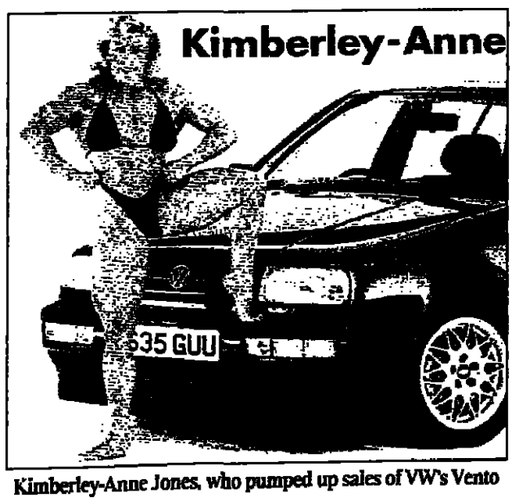
THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Chickening-out on Wall Street

FRESH worries over whether Wall Street's booming new issues market is beginning to flag came yesterday after Donna Karan pulled the flotation of her fashion design company that was thought to be a sure-fire hit. Karan, whose customers reputedly include Madonna, the Clintons and Richard Gere, said the time was not right for her £106 million offer because summer sales were not up to scratch. Analysts say internal fights among existing shareholders is the real reason. In this buoyant market, it has been said bankers could put a chicken up for sale. Someone did. Boston Chicken, a fast food chain was sold to the public last week at $20 a share and closed at $48.50 at the end of the first day's trading.

Not muscling-in

KIMBERLEY-ANNE, the bicep-bearing model of Vento advertising fame, has so impressed Volkswagen she has been handed the keys to a £13,344 model after boosting the car's sales. And the British



Kimberley-Anne Jones, who pumped up sales of VW's Vento

heavyweight female bodybuilding champion is going to plaster the sides of the car with the advertisement. The car will replace her current Vauxhall Astra, which has been off the road for weeks. VW thinks Kimberley-Anne Jones, of southeast London, has done nearly as much as VW girl Paula Hamilton to raise the company's UK image. It said: "Kimberley-Anne has been a superb ambassador for us. When we asked her to do the poster ads we had no idea she would be so good. It is very unusual to give a car to the star of an ad — unless it is written into the contract. She is not the type to ask for a free car, but we felt she deserved it." Unfazed by the fuss, Kimberley-Anne flies to New York next week to compete in the Miss Olympia contest.

Brave souls

STEPPING well beyond the call of duty, more than 50 City types from Lazards, BZW, Smith New Court and elsewhere will tonight walk over hot coals — and all for charity. The stunt at the Hurlingham Club, southwest London, will be closely monitored by Robin Allen, a physicist from Southampton University, who has organised several "Firewalks". The Hotfoot Challenge is expected to raise several thousand pounds for Children Nationwide, which supports medical research into childhood diseases.

Giant response

THE imminent flotation of Lilliput Group, the Cumbria firm that makes those quaint hand-painted miniature cottages, has sent would-be investors into a frenzy. Collectors, — 65,000 worldwide — have been deluging NatWest Markets, the sponsor, with requests for information on the issue, which is a placing and intermediaries offer, rather than a general free-for-all. NatWest received more than 900 telephone calls in a week — necessitating the arrival of a temporary secretary. The offer closes on Monday. Dealings begin on Thursday.

Working breakfast

BON vivants were up at the crack of dawn yesterday to catch this year's batch of Beaujolais Nouveau — with the usual catastrophic results. About 400 guests crowded into the Butchers Hall for a four-hour culinary orgy hosted by Chester Boyd, the City caterer. They consumed: 80ft of sausage, 400 eggs, three jars of caviar, half a kilo of truffle, two cases of grapefruit, 40 kiwi fruits, 14 pawpaws, 18 mangoes, 15lbs of bananas, 60 punnets of blueberries, raspberries and strawberries, a gallon of fromage frais, five poached salmon, four smoked sugar-baked gammons . . . and two 20-litre barrels of Beaujolais. In further feasting, the Balls Brothers wine bar chain whipped up 400 breakfasts and about 1,000 lunches for gourmands who guzzled their way through 3,000 bottles of Beaujolais. "The wine came in at 4am," said a weary Richard Balls, managing director and wine buyer.

JON ASHWORTH

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Gains reduced at close

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began November 15. Dealings end November 26. §Contango day November 29. Settlement day December 6. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
439	345	Abbey Nt	408	-4	11.8	3.6	15.7
200	179	Allied Irish	194	-1	...	3.8	14.0
216	131	Alls New 'Z'	216	+5	...	4.1	∞
3800½	2712½	Barclaycrest	2825 †	-50	...	...	...
295	177	Bk of Ireland	283 †	-2	...	4.4	20.7
350	325	Bk Lsumi UK	350	...	17.0	6.1	...
199	116½	Bank Scotland	191	+1	4.6	3.1	23.9
389	362	Barclays	382	-3	...	2.7	...
4½	2	Benchmark	4½	+½	...	...	...
22	15½	Carlisle	21	...	...	...	...
598	395	Carr Allen	595	...	27.0	6.1	...
153	88	Cater	140	...	...	4.0	18.6
2685½	1787½	Chase Manh	2156½	-28½	...	...	...
3600	2430	Citicorp	2575	-37½	...	...	...
465	250	Close Bros	455	...	...	3.0	18.6
6142½	9275	Commerzbk	6141½	-50	...	2.9	...
1342½	1250½	Deutsche Bk	1333½	-17½	...	1.8	...
95	45	First Nat Fin	66	+1	...	0.9	...
1651	876	Fuji Bank Y	1401	...	...	0.4	...
539	343	Gerrard Nat	455 †	...	21.5	5.9	12.1
775	490	HSBC	735	-1	20.0	3.4	17.5
785	474	HSBC HK	743	-3	20.0	3.4	17.8
403	343	Hambros	380 †	+2	14.3	5.0	10.6
628	313	Joseph (L)	418	...	16.6	5.0	...
155	48	King Shaxson	144	...	9.0	7.8	...
539	312	Lloyds Bk Ldn	507	...	16.7	4.1	17.8
991	692	Lloyds	909	+10	19.1	4.1	16.8
118	63	Lon Scot Bk	95	...	2.9	3.8	18.8
575	322	Nat Aust Bk	575	...	...	3.7	∞
586	398	Nat West	538	-4	17.8	4.0	23.9
460	250	Provident	419	-1	12.4	3.7	18.1
54	39	Rea Bros	50	...	0.5	1.4	53.1
372	207	Ryl Bk Scot	368	+1	9.0	3.1	...
1336	467½	Schroders	1210	...	...	1.2	24.1
1088	576	Stand Chart	1053	+10	20.5	2.4	...
229	149½	TSB	219½	-½	6.4	3.6	...
190	78	Union Disc	170	+1	...	...	...
940	529	Warburg SG	850 †	+10	...	2.9	12.4
8600	6843½	Wells Fargo	7900	+300½	...	2.5	...
205	121	Westpac	204	...	...	3.9	...
335	188	Wintrust	320	...	9.3	3.6	29.6

BREWERIES

646	517	Allied-Lyons	572	+11	...	4.6	15.5
647	441	Bass	568	+3	19.1	5.1	10.2
299	189	Boddington	267	...	7.5	3.8	14.4
459	362	Bulmer (HP)	438	...	...	2.9	10.1
175	129	Burkwood Bw	175 †	...	4.7	3.4	14.6
130	75	Elvidge P 'A'	125	...	...	3.3	33.1
70½	50	Fremantle	70½	...	...	3.7	∞
435	338	Fstr Sn 'A'	405	...	...	2.3	17.4
400	377	Grand Met	392	-2	12.5	3.9	13.3
457	347	Greenalls Grp	370	-1	12.0	4.1	12.3
573	505	Greene King	551	...	...	2.8	15.6
521	388	Guinness	451	+2	...	3.4	16.8
291	230	Hardy Hanso	253 †	-1	7.8	3.9	14.1
138	105	Hewitts	138	...	3.0	2.8	32.9
353	255	Highland Dist	314	+2	...	2.7	15.4
3138	2538	Holt J	3113	...	42.0	1.7	30.3
90	70	Hoskins Brew	70	...	...	...	...
323	250	Invergordon Dist	300	...	...	3.0	17.1
186	126	Macallan-Glen	126	...	4.3	4.3	28.3
465	375	Macdn Marn 'A'	393	...	...	2.8	18.7
225	164	Marshfield	193	...	...	2.5	13.8
299	231	Morgan Thmp	271	...	...	2.5	16.4
540	285½	Matthew Clark	540	...	7.0	3.6	19.0
300	240	Morgrwn W	240	...	7.0	3.6	19.0
545	455	Mtnd Parkes	516	...	8.7	3.1	20.8
12	6½	Paramount ♦	8	...	...	2.1	∞
199	146	Regent Inns	188	+1	...	2.0	19.1
1149	753	SA Breweries	1149	+23	...	2.3	19.4
482	393	Scot & New	475	+6	...	4.4	14.8
225	181	Tennents Cider	184	-1	9.0	4.1	18.3
289	213	Vaux Group	265	-1	9.3	6.4	18.3
357	225	Wetherspoon JD	326	+1	...	2.1	25.3
574½	435	Whitbread 'A'	519	+19	...	4.4	12.3
1425	890	-do- 'B'	1128	...	...	4.4	15.7
613	463	Wolverhmpn D	477	+1	11.8	3.1	13.6
515	475	Young 'A'	480	...	14.7	3.9	19.6

BUILDING, ROADS

136	73	Abbey	135	...	...	1.7	22.2
25½	12½	Albrighton ♦	19	...	...	...	...
148	87	Allen ♦	139	...	5.0	4.5	31.5
126	65	Amec	113	...	3.0	3.3	20.9
12	4	Anglia Sec	7½	...	...	...	...
326	150	Ashtead ♦	309	-1	...	1.8	32.7
142	101	Ashtons	141	...	...	4.5	...
376	180	BPB Ind	265	+10	...	3.5	45.6
91	57	Baggeridge Brk	90	...	3.1	4.3	30.2
31	18	Bailey (Ben) Con	27	...	0.6	2.8	...
108	74	Barrow	96	+1	3.8	4.0	15.6
56½	32½	Bardon	39	+2	2.0	6.4	19.2
195	94	Barratt Devs	175	+3	4.0	2.9	∞
469	308	Bellway	457	...	12.0	3.4	∞
43	18	Bellwinch	39	...	...	...	...
449	285½	Berkeley Gp	429	+7	...	1.7	26.9
116	45	Bett Bros	101	+½	3.0	2.5	∞
63	36	Blockleys	52	...	1.0	3.4	57.5
312	189	Blue Circle	312	+7	...	4.5	...
285	220	Boot (Henry)	273	...	6.0	3.7	15.3
106	78	Brendon PLC	87	...	4.6	6.6	21.6
125	82	Br Dredging	125	+1	5.2	5.2	27.7
98	45	Brit Fittings	81	...	1.7	2.7	...
151	96	Bryant	143	+1	...	4.2	28.9
121	53	CALA	118	...	...	2.4	...
328	200	CRH	319	...	...	2.7	17.5
43	18	Calsbrook Hldg	30	...	...	...	...
41½	21	Costain	39½	+½	...	...	...
150	86½	Countrywide	143	...	...	3.6	37.8
98	38	Crest Nicholson	95	+2	0.0	...	...
112	27	Cussins	86	...	...	1.5	...
7½	1½	Dennons ♦	4	...	...	...	...
25	15	Edmund Hidgs	19½	...	0.3	2.0	...
278	178	Ryobi	224	...	7.0	3.2	23.2
59	32	Erith	54	...	0.3	0.8	...
506	252	Eve Group ♦	503	...	...	2.5	18.2
6½	3	Explaurea ♦	3½	...	...	...	...
140	97	Freeman Gp ♦	131	...	...	4.8	20.8
59	38	Galliford	58	...	1.0	3.3	∞
81	52	Gibbs & Dandy	80	...	...	3.1	...
923	668	Gleeson (MJ)	923	...	12.7	1.7	∞
164	90	Hewden-Stuart	152	+2	...	2.7	22.1
51	28	Hewetson	46	...	...	3.4	34.0
358	186	Heywd Wtm	349	...	12.5	4.5	...
119	37	Higgs & Hill	109	...	2.5	2.9	...
38	26	How Gp	27	...	...	5.2	...
21	15	Howard Mdgs	21	...	0.5	3.0	...
78	39	Hunnk Johnson	66	+1	1.0	1.9	...
19½	12½	Jarvis	15	-½	...	...	...
316	196	Laing (J)	287	-½	9.0	3.9	11.5
127½	103	-do- 6.4% Cv Pf	119½	-1	...	6.7	...
103	55	Ln Clydesdale ♦	103	...	4.5	5.5	38.8
23	10½	Lovell (T)	15½	...	...	...	7.0
350	240	Mandors	305	+3	8.3	3.8	18.7
168	93	Marley	169	+2	4.2	3.1	49.6
125	61	Marshalls	120	-1	...	4.2	...
188	132	Maunders (J)	186	...	...	5.1	3.5	∞
217	96	Mealpine (A)	202	...	...	6.5	4.0	35.0
47	20	McCarthy & S	39	...	...	0.5	1.6	...
458	272	Meyer Int	453	+4	...	2.8	44.0
129	62	Mowlem (J)	121	...	4.0	4.1	...
168	51	NSM	149	...	...	...	...
53	48	Needler ♦	53	...	...	3.6	23.4
171	106	Newman Tnks	149	...	...	5.6	19.9
300	197	Persimmon	282	...	8.6	3.8	28.8
26	10	Phoenix Timber	10	...	...	...	...
1725	1237½	Pochlon	1725	...	29.0	2.1	24.3
163	80	Pruning	150 †	+1	3.4	2.8	...
6½	1½	Quilligotte ♦	1½	...	...	...	...
848	555	RMC Gp	845	+6	...	3.0	31.7
117	75½	Raine Ind	78	+1	...	4.8	18.5
38	18	Ramsay	20	...	...	...	...
573	402	Redland	546	+8	25.0	5.7	31.5
86	64	Ronkel	82	-1	4.3	6.6	12.1
296	207	Rugby Group	281	+1	6.4	2.9	21.5
68	23	Swfld-Aves ♦	67	...	...	0.5	...
161	68	Sharpe & Fisher	160	...	...	3.1	27.8
241	86½	Sheffield Ind	230	...	...	2.9	58.4
175	82	Sheriff Hldgs ♦	173	...	...	4.6	18.8
95	66	Shorrock	93	...	...	7.0	23.1
240	196	Smart (J)	225 †	...	8.5	4.8	∞
9½	2½	Staunton	3	...	...	...	...
156	100	Tarmac	136	-1	5.5	5.1	...
194	137	Tay Homes	177	...	...	4.1	21.0
139	83	Taylor Woodrw	130	+2	1.0	1.0	...
633	453	Tilbury Douglas	580	+3	33.0	7.0	19.3
39	19	Toms Hldgs ♦	36	...	...	...	...
287	168	Travis Perkins	287	...	8.0	3.5	50.5
40	25	Try Group	39	...	1.0	4.8	7.4
21	10	Ulstora	21	...	...	1.5	...
69	41	Vibroplant	69	...	2.5	3.7	30.5
65	20	Ward Hldgs	33	-1	...	...	...
36	25	Warenhouse	35	...	...	...	...
475	360	Wates Blake	427	+2	...	3.5	18.4
27½	6½	Wescolo ♦	18	...	...	...	...
174	90	Westbrnr	168 †	...	5.0	3.7	26.2
12	4½	West Scotland ♦	7	...	...	...	...
4	3	Wiggins ♦	3½	...	...	...	...
457½	362	Wilson Bowdn	417 †	+2	...	2.7	20.3
205	147	Wilson (C)	182	+1	3.9	2.7	16.5
194	104	Wimpey G	169	+2	...	3.0	...
47	25	YRM	34	-1	0.5	1.8	...

BUSINESS SERVICES

675	463	ADT	603	...	...	...	...
248	198	Adam & Harrer	245 †	...	13.0	6.7	4.5
92	56	Air Londnn ♦	61	...	...	7.2	10.9
56	37	African Lakes	46	...	2.0	5.7	...
178	120	Aggr Ind	178	...	...	3.9	24.2
113	84	BET Ord	108	...	...	3.2	18.0
113	41	BNB Res	115	...	4.9	5.4	...
318	258	BPP	310	...	8.3	3.3	17.1
295	195	Barbour Index	295	+5	8.0	4.1	16.7
28	15	Bocstend	25	...	0.7	2.5	...
369	184	Brit Data Mgt	260	...	4.7	2.5	17.5
20	11	Broadcastle ♦	15	...	...	1.3	14.9
72	54	Brooks Service	69	...	...	2.9	...
109	88	CIT Gp	109	...	...	1.4	16.7
493	139½	Capital Group	198	+1	...	1.4	36.7
45	31	Caslas Plc	40	...	...	2.8	15.2
55	18½	Chiltern Capital	52½	+½	...	...	...
51	25	Civitelle	40	...	...	...	...
153	120	Chubb Sec	138	-1	...	1.7	22.2
100	63	Comaco	93	...	...	2.0	24.3
37	6½	Corp Services	36	...	...	...	...
91	20	Cowrs Cmbs	91	...	...	...	...
137	93	Dan	137	...	3.2	3.0	18.6
256	198	Davis Service	214	...	...	4.1	16.1
104	85	EW Faka	104 ‖	...	...	5.5	11.7
37	21	Gardiner	28	...	...	2.1	17.7
227	211	Hays	227	...	5.3	2.3	...
265	174	Hogg Robinson	252	+2	...	3.8	16.2
34	24	Holmes Protecn	32	...	...	...	...
238	132	Hunch Whamp	187	+11	...	1.8	22.3
2175	975	ISS S Dkr	2050	...	...	1.0	14.1
657	475	Inchcape	498	+5	...	3.5	16.3
925	668	Johnson Clean	868	...	25.5	3.7	18.9
12	2½	Lep	8½	...	...	...	...
1187	893	Manpower	1108	-5	...	...	...
82	45½	Mcalpine Fagg	59½	...	1.8	3.8	25.5
208	152	Pennon	152	...	...	8.3	4.5
4½	2	Prime Propics	3½	...	...	...	...
145	97	Prudential Assr	97	-3	...	2.0	3.7
423	337	RCO	358	...	14.1	4.6	13.3
118	86	REA	97	...	2.0	2.6	...
108	43	Reed Executive	97	...	...	...	...
156	108	Rollinson Secs	116	...	...	5.1	23.9
238	178	Rentokil	238	...	2.5	1.5	25.7
283	220	Rolfe & Nolan	280	...	...	3.2	15.8
369	336	Salvesen (C)	347	-4	...	2.8	19.8
39	26	Scot Protctve ♦	35	...	...	2.9	11.2
10	3	Select Appts ♦	8	...	...	...	...
1223	695	Serco Gp	1223	+10	15.3	1.4	33.8
352	83	Sherard Cmps ♦	180	...	...	8.8	3.9
150	90	Shetkley	105	...	...	3.6	23.8
358	280	Warner Howard	330 †	...	9.6	2.5	17.2
48	27	Wigmr	36	...	...	...	...
23	14	Wilts Gp	21	-½	0.4	1.9	∞

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

248	210	Allied Colloids	232	+1	...	2.3	23.4
691	613	Amersham	948 †	+6	...	1.8	32.8
7	1½	Anglo Ord	2½	...	...	...	...
1112	8325	BASF DM	1109½	-99½	...	6.1	...
300	190	BTP	224	+2	...	4.2	18.9
1130½	1101½	Bayer DM50	1129½	-90	...	4.2	...
178	118	Biagden	174	...	6.5	6.1	14.4
165	93	Brent Chems	115	+1	...	8.0	10.5
530	345	Br Bio-Tech	385	-1	...	...	...
29	6½	Calrd Gp	29	...	...	2.2	19.4
180	120	Canning (W)	156	...	...	5.8	17.9
508	424	Courtaulds	420	-2	...	4.2	10.7
338	238	Croda	338	...	...	2.9	19.6
149	121	Dowding	121	...	4.6	4.7	9.4
259	195	Ellis & Everard	211	...	...	4.2	20.2
47½	15½	Euro Colour	39½	...	0.8	2.0	18.0
344	258	Halstead Jl	343	...	...	3.4	17.0
241	150	Hickson	186	+1	...	6.4	14.5
6116	8850	Hoechst	6110½	+12½	...	3.3	...
329	194	Holliday Chem	329	+1	...	2.0	21.6
2470	1650	ICI	1670	+11	...	5.1	...
685	578	Laporte	665	...	19.9	3.7	18.2
230	181	Leigh	208	+1	...	4.8	19.9
67½	35	MTM	48½	...	...	...	...

DRAPERY, STORES

102	53	Alexon	69½	...	...	3.5	19.8
87	42	Amber Day	52 †	...	1.3	3.2	∞
358	257	Argos Plc	333	-2	...	2.7	28.4
25	9½	Ashley Group	10	...	...	2.3	...
118	69	Ashley (Laura)	90	...	0.1	0.1	...
330	278	Asprey	319	...	5.1	2.0	22.1
154	94	Austin Reed	148	...	...	2.1	...
155	125	Bottle (J) 'A'	151	...	...	5.0	15.2
121	94	Bentalls	103	-4	1.9	2.4	...
278	144	Bestwayne	148 †	+5	...	1.8	17.2
47	32	Blacks Leis	43	...	2.2	6.7	...
527	135	Body Shop	205	...	...	4.2	24.3
164	111½	Brown & Jackson	125	-½	...	0.8	6.4
434	318	Brown (N)	418	-2	...	2.2	24.6
87	64	Burton	66½	+2½	2.0	3.8	∞
165	126	Cantors	163	+7	4.0	3.1	∞
560	405	Church	535	-1	12.6	4.7	20.6
183	97	Clinton Cards	152	+1	4.3	3.6	18.3
280½	212	Coats Viyella	265	+1	...	3.5	36.6
112	78	Collezione ♦	90	-1	5.6	4.7	23.6
181	154	City Centre	158	-4	...	3.3	14.7
680	574	Comyn Ching	634	...	5.5	0.8	10.3
155	115	Crown Eyes ♦	135	...	...	0.5	9.2
130	89	Dalry Farm Intl	116	...	...	3.1	17.0
91	51½	Dewhirst (J)	89½	...	6.8	1.1	28.7
286	189	Dixons Grp	270	-7	...	2.9	...
22	8	EKA Gp	11	...	...	...	...
330	220	Ego (Wimbldn)	320	...	16.0	5.0	18.2
186	71	Essex Furn	157	...	...	2.8	∞
273	203	Etam	264	-4	7.0	3.9	20.4
608	499	Fine Art Dev	540	-3	12.7	3.0	17.6
70	26	Fired Earth Tiler	47	...	...	...	...
508	498	Formbuster	505	...	14.0	3.0	10.6
180	74	French Conn ♦	130	...	...	...	...
74	43	Gent Sft	71	...	2.1	3.7	∞
78	23	Goldsmiths Gp	75	-1	0.3	0.5	...
572	334	GUS	572	+9	...	2.4	18.3
40	23	Hampden Grp ♦	23	...	...	3.4	11.4
277	30	Harbstone	47	...	...	7.4	...
227	30	Helene Pic	26	+½	2.0	9.7	12.3
75	29	Heritage ♦	73	...	...	...	...
259	157	Hemptncdlen ♦	73	-1	...	3.9	∞
161	63	Jacques Vert	156	...	...	2.4	12.0
691	496	Kingfisher	679	+4	...	2.6	23.4
80	62½	Leslie Wse Gp	70	...	...	4.0	7.1
685	495	Liberty	565	...	...	2.1	16.5
320	241	Lloyds Chem	306	+13	7.2	3.0	∞
152	120	MFI	136	+1	...	3.4	28.6
413½	311	Marks Spencer	413½	+2½	...	2.5	21.1
280	198	Mayfair Hldgs	272	...	...	2.2	18.2
353	235	Mayors (John)	272	-11	5.5	2.0	28.1
212	139½	Next	186 †	...	3.5	2.4	22.2
41	15	Oliver (G)	38	...	...	...	...
354	197	Ottakme Ind	303	...	...	...	...
61	39½	Peacock	57	...	...	4.0	14.8
63	39½	Pentos	60	...	...	2.5	8.4
58	29	Qs Hldgs	190	...	5.1	3.4	13.5
58½	20½	Rhino Grp ♦	58½	...	...	...	...
169	130	Rosebys	168	...	...	3.6	20.2
169	130	Sherwood Gp	144	...	...	3.2	13.0
130	89	Sears	119	...	...	3.7	...
41½	11	Signet Group	28½	-1	...	...	...
402	405	Smith WH 'A'	484	+5	...	2.2	27.2
20	4½	Specialpress ♦	14	...	...	...	...
229	176	Storehouse	200	+17	...	3.2	19.5
584	98	Mtnl	406	+10	...	2.4	∞
153	108	NMT Compu	153	...	3.3	...	∞
40½	6½	Moltyrn	40½	+½	1.3	...	...
272	202	MTL Instr ♦	252	...	...	3.5	21.4
165	103	Multitone Elect	140	...	3.5	3.1	25.4
237	116	Murray Exmr	235	...	...	...	...
3209½	2612½	NYNEX	2858	-50	...	...	...
188	128	Neurosystcs	150	...	2.6	3.5	16.8
85	43	Newmark (J)	56	...	...	2.1	22.6
30	18	Northumbrdr	67	...	0.7	20.2	...
277	58	Norbaline ♦	262	...	...	...	...
75	30	Northumbrdr	67	...	1.1	...	...
79	7½	Oceanics ♦	8½	...	...	...	...
267	195	Oxford Inst	260	...	4.6	2.0	20.1
63	48	PK Interntl	73	...	...	...	...
81½	29	P & P	62	...	1.5	3.0	32.9
80	58	Pack	76	...	3.4	5.6	19.8
227	115	Pegasus ♦	214	...	...	3.7	54.9
9500	6700	Phillips Fu ♦%	9500	...	...	...	...
1437½	725	-do- Lmp ♦%	1375	...	...	...	...
313	211	Pianolinka	280	...	...	...	...
280	171½	Pitco	273	-2	...	1.9	22.9
280	151½	-do- 'A' Voting	263	-2	...	2.0	23.0
83	63	Pizzaexpress	75	...	...	5.0	6.3
120	76	Pressac	105	...	2.5	3.1	∞
186	81	Prism ♦	186	...	...	1.7	49.4
261	160	Racal Elec	198	-14	4.2	2.1	11.8
70	38	Radmore	69	...	...	3.6	19.2
70	31	Radstock	36	...	...	7.8	12.6
93½	64	Real Time ♦	67	-4	...	5.6	13.8
58	18	Rivas ♦	32	...	...	...	34.2
439	297	Sage Gp	422	-1	9.3	2.7	31.8
122	68	Sanderson Elec	104	...	4.0	3.8	13.0
88	49	Scantronic	72	...	3.1	5.4	19.2
181	117	Schoolc Gp	165	...	...	3.8	21.4
375	270	Sears Gp	320	+8	2.9	1.1	20.0
42	20	Silverstone ♦	40	...	...	2.9	...
51	37	Smandtracks ♦	51	...	...	5.8	12.2
2675	1737½	TDK	2437½	+34½	...	1.3	27.6
27	4½	TDS Circuits ♦	12	...	...	...	...
180	98	Telecentre	154	-1	0.8	0.6	35.4
1017	809	THORN Emi	950	-5	...	4.2	19.4
258	152	Thorpe FW	125	-5	...	2.7	14.6
103	44	Total Systems ♦	44	-2	3.0	6.5	7.9
572	352	Tunstall	565	...	5.7	1.3	22.6
297	164	Unitech	290	+8	...	3.1	59.0
11½	6	Verity ♦	9	...	...	...	...
25	24	Vistec ♦	24	...	...	...	...
388	267	Vodafone	338	-3	...	1.6	24.2
249	160	Volex	238	+8	18.1	5.5	17.2
15	11	Western Selectn	20	...	...	1.8	14.9
240	213	Wholesale Figs	232	...	11.7	5.4	28.0

ELECTRICAL

187	134	ACT Group	161 †	+5	...	3.9	16.2
253	223	Acsia	253	...	...	3.1	17.6
162½	38	Accon Comps ♦	88	-4	...	...	44.6
480	385	Admiral	468	...	5.7	1.5	19.8
170	104	Alba	163	...	...	3.7	20.4
50	19½	Alphameric	49	...	...	...	...
53	22	Amstrad	43	-11	0.5	1.5	∞
128	61	App Hldgs ♦	71	...	...	...	...
43	9½	Arlen	37	...	...	...	...
88	35½	Assc	71½	+½	...	0.4	...
203	163	Beales Hunter	203	...	...	4.8	15.0
9	2	Bennett & Fount	2½	...	...	...	...
446	319	BICC	386	-6	19.2	6.2	...
558	408	Blick	458	+4	...	2.8	18.4
1700	928	Burls

هكذا من الأصل

British Gas blames 'squeeze' for bigger third-quarter loss

BY ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH Gas blamed a "regulatory squeeze" for increased losses in the third quarter. Although the company traditionally slides into the red in the three warm-weather months to the end of September, its pre-tax loss deepened to £333 million, against £282 million in the comparable months of 1992.

In the first nine months of the year, profits fell from £633 million to £605 million. Robert Evans, chairman, said: "Higher profits from exploration and production, overseas gas supply and other business segments at the nine months were unable to offset the declining profitability of the United Kingdom gas supply business arising from the regulatory squeeze."

British Gas's share of the contract market, supplying gas to factories and offices, had fallen to 34 per cent. This, together with "other regulatory pressure on volumes and prices", had caused UK gas supply profits to fall by almost 30 per cent in the nine months, despite a relatively cold year, he said. Efforts are being made to improve efficiency and cut staff in the supply business.

Mr Evans appealed for an early decision by Michael Heseltine, president of the board of trade, on recommendations by the monopolies commission that British Gas be forced to sell its UK supply business and that the UK gas market be opened up to free competition, with British Gas remaining the main supplier of gas transmission services through its pipelines.

"It is in the interests of our shareholders, customers and employees that the government should announce its intentions soon, in order that a stable regulatory and business framework for the future can be created," he said. Until that decision was announced, it would become increasingly difficult to make necessary decisions and investments.

Overall, British Gas increased third-quarter sales by 8.9 per cent, to £1.54 billion; total sales for the first nine months rose by 2.3 per cent. However, operating profits for the nine months were down by £112 million, at £281 million, as a tighter regulatory formula forced price cuts.

Operating profits from exploration and production in the nine months rose by £57 million, to £144 million, reflecting increased sales volumes and higher sterling selling prices. Currency movements also lifted profits from overseas gas supply — largely the Consumers Gas subsidiary in Canada — which rose by £28 million, to £123 million.

Tempus, page 29



Robert Evans reported regulatory pressure on UK business

Fee recovery and currency gains lift Willis Corroon

BY SARAH BAGNALL, INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

WILLIS Corroon, the UK's biggest insurance broker, has seen a 15 per cent rise in profits after currency gains combined with a continued recovery in underlying brokerage and fee income.

Pre-tax profits for the nine months to end-September rose from £60.9 million to £70.1 million. Exchange rate movements boosted profits by £6.1 million, more than offsetting the £3 million fall, to £39.9 million, in investment income, which was hit by lower interest rates on both sides of the Atlantic.

The group's improving trend in quarterly results accelerated in the third quarter, with profits from ongoing businesses rising by 31 per cent, to £8.9 million. This was partly wiped out by a £1.9 million third-quarter loss from discontinued UK underwriting operations, reflecting additional reserves on the marine account and further provisions for uncollectable reinsurance.

In spite of the increase in overall pre-tax profits, the directors held the quarterly dividend at 1.65p. The shares advanced 3p, to 229p.

Underlying brokerage and fee revenue grew by 3.5 per cent over the nine months. Underlying expenses were virtually unchanged, because of continued tight control.

In a statement, Roger Elliott, chairman, and Richard Miller, chief executive, said: "Revenue growth continues to benefit from higher premiums set by worldwide reinsurers and by UK direct underwriters for most classes of business." However, they added that, in the US, rates for most lines of business remain depressed, in spite of which US profits leapt by 85 per cent, to £24.6 million. The group reaffirmed its intention to dispose of a majority holding in its US underwriting operation, Gryphon Holdings, by an initial public offering.

Over the nine months, profits from the group's mainstream broking and consulting businesses increased by 30 per cent, to £67.9 million. Profits from underwriting activities rose from £8.5 million to £9.4 million.

C E Heath leaps 254%

STRONG underlying performance, an exceptional gain, and an end to reserve strengthening lifted interim pre-tax profits at C E Heath, the insurance broker, 254 per cent (Sarah Bagnall writes).

Pre-tax profits for the six months to end September rose from £4.2 million to £14.8 million. Profits include a £3.2 million exceptional gain from the part-flotation of Heath's Australian underwriting operation (£4.7 million exceptional loss). Stripping out exceptionals, pre-tax profits rose 30 per cent from £8.9 million to £11.6 million.

Peter Presland, chief executive, said no provisions had been made for liabilities on the discontinued Australian aviation underwriting account against £18.4 million. The dividend was held at 5p.

Brokerage profits leapt 59 per cent, from £3.6 million to £5.8 million, reflecting a £2.7 million exchange rate benefit, partly offset by a £1.3 million fall in investment income and underwriting profits advanced 13.4 per cent.

Grampian rides out recession

Tight cost control and resilient advertising sales north of the border helped to lift profits by 8 per cent at Grampian Television, the ITV franchise holder for the north of Scotland. Pre-tax profits rose from £1.44 million to £1.55 million for the half year to August 31 on turnover down from £10.06 million to £9.87 million.

Calum MacLeod, chairman, said that Scotland's "comparative buoyancy in recession" had helped to lift Grampian's share of network advertising sales and limited harm from loss of Channel 4 sales. The Glenburnie Properties subsidiary lifted its contribution to profits from £405,000 to £463,000.

The interim dividend rises from 1.1p to 1.5p.

GKN order

GKN Defence has won a £4 million order for 125 armoured supercontainers to aid disabling of the former Soviet Union's nuclear weapons.

Serif cash call

Serif, the USM-quoted printer in the red at halftime, is applying for a full listing and seeking £4.9 million in a two-for-one rights issue at 11p a share to cut borrowings and provide working capital. The shares fell 2p, to 16p.

Sale of flats cuts debts at Regalian

BY CARL MORTISHED

SALES of flats at Kensington Palace Gardens and in Docklands have helped Regalian Properties to cut borrowings from £65 million to £21 million over the six months to September 30. The company made £50 million of sales in the period against £46 million last time and £6 million of units were exchanged or under offer at the half-year end.

Debt reduction and stabilising property values cut the pre-tax loss to £869,000 from £21.5 million in the first half last year with the interest charge for the period falling from £6.6 million to £2.2 million.

Regalian has now sold 20 of the 24 flats at the luxury Kensington Palace Gardens development and all the units at the first phase of Free Trade Wharf have been sold. Regalian has applied for planning permission to develop another 200 flats on the remainder of the Free Trade Wharf site.

David Goldstone, chairman, said the Limehouse Link and the announcement of the Jubilee Line extension has had a strong impact. "This development has been re-planned to target the lower to middle market where there is perceived to be a measure of buoyancy" he said.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

PORTER CHADBURN (Int)
Pre-tax: £1.42m Loss
LPS: 1.72p (5.52p)
Div: Nil (0.85p)
There was a loss of £5.26m last time. Company plans to focus on its US packaging interests, with plans to sell off other parts of the group.

BROCKHAMPTON HLDGS
Pre-tax: £3.43m (£1.87m)
EPS: 30.5p (15.6p)
Div: 3p (2.2p)
Interim results. Turnover rose to £12.7m (£11.7m). A weaker second half is likely, but group expects a satisfactory outcome for the year.

HARDY OIL & GAS (Int)
Pre-tax: £2.14m
EPS: 3.8p (5.0p)
Div: Nil (nil)
There was a profit of £527,000 last time. Turnover rose to £29.5m (£21.1m). There was a much lower tax credit of £1.69m (£4.1m).

600 GROUP (Int)
Pre-tax: £1.59m Loss
LPS: 3.8p (1.3p)
Div: 0.5p (1.0p)
There was a loss of £240,000 last time. Turnover dropped to £44.9m (£49.4m). Group expects to make further cuts in employee numbers.

FORWARD GROUP (Int)
Pre-tax: £930,000
EPS: 8.0p (4.5p)
Div: 2.0p (1.3p)
There was a profit of £491,000 last time. Turnover, boosted by acquisition, advanced to £9.43m (£5.77m). Faint signs of recovery.

MERCHANT RETAIL (Int)
Pre-tax: £31,000 Loss
LPS: 0.15p (EPS: 0.44p)
Div: 0.2p (0.35p)
There was a profit of £467,000 last time. Turnover dipped to £80.3m (£81.2m). There was a £223,000 loss on the disposal of businesses.

THOMAS LOCKER (Int)
Pre-tax: £324,000 Loss
LPS: 0.67p (EPS: 0.40p)
Div: 0.2p (0.35p)
There was a profit of £29,000 last time. Turnover dipped to £17.3m (£18.7m). Second half currently shows no signs of improvement.

THE TIMES

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European Portfolio 86.54 92.32 + 0.43 0.82
Japanese Portfolio 66.32 70.62 + 0.54 ...
Pacific Portfolio 136.46 146.74 - 0.52 0.82
UK Inc & Growth 71.64 76.76 + 0.23 4.14
Utility & Bond 56.05 56.46 + 0.30 6.27

CENTURY UNIT TRUSTS LTD
5 Old Bailey, London EC4M 7BA 071 332 5000
UK General Tst 63.82 67.89 + 0.23 2.95
Global Tst 59.20 62.97 + 0.21 0.30
Recovery Tst 66.16 70.38 + 0.01 1.87

CHARTERED ASSET MGMT LTD
151 Farringdon Rd, London EC1R 3AD 071 837 7667
Intl Growth 133.12 139.78 .. 1.78
UK Growth 104.72 110.23 .. 2.42
UK Income 106.77 112.11 .. 4.33

CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD
1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge SE1 071 407 5966
Beckman Intl 90.04 95.13 .. 1.76
Beck Bio-Tech 43.38 46.15 - 1.15 ...
Acorn Ethical Tst 148.46 156.27 ... 1.14
City Fin Assets 66.46 69.96 ... 1.75
City Fin America 82.02 86.34 ... ...
City Fin Intl 75.28 79.24 ... 0.59
City Fin Japan 166.19 174.94 ... ...
Friars Hse Cap 258.30 271.89 ... 2.39
Friars Hse Inc 192.38 202.50 ... 5.04
Buckley Wrld Grth 129.77 138.05 ... 0.72
Fairmnt Cap Gth 132.35 139.32 - 3.67 ...
-do- Inc & Gth 109.23 114.98 - 2.56 2.24
Fairmount Intl 148.74 156.57 - 3.17 ...
City Fin Ptflo Inc 59.89 63.71 - 1.44 3.50

CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD
10 Eastcheap, London EC3M 1AJ 0392 412 144
Emerging Markets 52.90 56.13 - 0.06 ...

CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD
Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH 0800 373 393
American Gwth 58.11 62.15 - 0.59 ...
Atlas Mngd Gwth 37.65 40.27 - 0.17 0.15
Dragon Growth 70.84 75.76 - 1.14 0.55
Equity High Inc 81.74 86.73 + 0.22 3.84
European Gwth 46.98 49.85 + 0.34 0.82
Evergreen 29.46 31.51 - 0.05 ..
General Equity 80.92 85.86 + 0.23 2.39
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc 27.31 28.71 + 0.01 6.06
Japan Growth 48.52 51.89 - 0.35 ...
Pedigree Gwth 48.32 51.54 - 0.07 2.17
Pel Sm Cos Inc 30.25 32.10 + 0.03 1.04
Retirement Inc 25.93 27.88 + 0.08 5.65
Special Sits 35.40 37.86 + 0.03 1.93
UK & Overseas 47.98 50.91 + 0.04 1.08

COLONIAL MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD
Chatham Maritime, Kent ME4 4YY 0634 890 000
Capital 62.94 67.32 + 0.25 2.85
Income 59.90 64.07 + 0.27 3.89

COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT INTERNATIONAL LTD
Exchange Court, 3 Bedford Park, Croydon CR0 2AQ 081 686 9888
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)
Income Funds
Equity Inc 157.77 167.84 + 0.23 3.27
Fixed & Convertible 45.25 48.14 + 0.75 5.90
Monthly Inc Plus 51.77 55.07 + 0.08 8.14
Preference Share 49.44 52.60 + 0.05 7.22
Balanced Funds
High Yield 127.75 135.90 + 0.17 6.05
Managed Fund 67.07 71.35 + 0.18 2.83
UK Growth Funds
Smaller Cos 38.83 41.31 - 0.03 1.99
UK & General 74.18 78.91 + 0.05 2.74
UK Growth 130.58 138.91 + 0.24 1.65
International Growth Funds
Europe Growth 171.69 182.65 + 1.39 ...
Far Eastern Gth 132.73 141.20 - 0.40 0.30
Global Bond 88.22 93.75 + 0.03 5.70
Gold & Coms 65.18 69.34 - 0.09 ..
Japan Growth 119.36 126.98 + 1.05 ...
North Amer Gth 162.78 173.17 - 1.30 ..
Oriental Growth 79.09 84.14 - 0.80 ...
Worldwide Growth 62.72 66.72 + 0.11 0.25
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)
Deposit Fund 91.92 91.92 + 0.01 5.02
Homemaker Fund 73.60 78.30 + 0.12 1.96
Quilter Fund 131.64 140.04 + 0.32 2.12

CONFEDERATION FUNDS MGMT LTD
Lytton Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2NN 0438 744 840
Growth Inc 56.05 59.62 + 0.20 3.00
High Income 33.23 35.35 + 0.10 4.50
Japan 34.66 36.87 + 0.35 ...
Smaller Cos Inc 28.87 30.71 - 0.01 2.40
Smaller Cos 30.04 31.95 - 0.02 2.40
North American 32.64 34.72 - 0.25 0.60
European 34.39 36.58 + 0.21 0.70

CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD
1 White Hart Yd, London Bridge SE1 1NX 071 407 5966
Consistent UT 30.35 32.56 + 0.30 4.55

CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD
78-80 Cornhill, London EC3V 3NJ 071 283 9494
Equity Dist 782.70 796.50 ... 3.77

CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD
5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex 0277 690 370
Fellowship Tst 66.50 70.75 + 0.20 1.62
Income 229.00 243.70 + 0.60 3.66
Smaller Cos 136.40 145.21 ... 1.13
Inv Portfolio 73.46 78.18 + 0.14 2.05
High Income Port 65.72 69.92 + 0.19 3.90

DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD
155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3XS 071 410 0177
Euro Small Cos 1357.6 1385.4 - 4.30
Japan Small Cos 1164.1 1187.4 -18.40 ..
UK Small Cos 1620.8 1642.7 - 5.90
US Small Cos 1614.9 1640.2 -16.50 ..

DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS
66 Wilson Street, London EC2A 2BL 071 377 8819
Disc Inc 179.90 188.20 ... 2.91

DUNEDIN UNIT TST MGRS LTD
25 Ravelston Terrace, Edinburgh 031 315 2500
European Gwth 235.90 249.20 + 1.60 1.23
New Asia 200.20 216.40 - 4.80 0.47
Japan Growth 126.00 133.90 + 1.30 ..
Jap Smllr Co 507.20 539.70 + 1.90 .
Nth Amer 242.50 257.40 - 0.40 1.01
Shiltd Asia Pac Mt 111.40 119.90 - 1.70 0.50
UK Inc & Gnh 209.30 222.30 + 1.00 3.72

EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD
Bath Road, Cheltenham GL53 7LQ 0242 577 555
UK Balanced Inc 134.20 142.80 + 0.60 2.41
UK High Inc Inc 144.50 153.70 + 0.90 5.76
UK Pref & F I Inc 64.01 67.96 + 0.40 8.43
Environmtl Opps 76.42 81.30 - 0.16 1.41

EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD
97 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh 0345 090 526
American 121.50 129.10 - 0.30 0.29
Convertibles 23.33 24.79 - 0.07 7.97
Equity Income 131.60 139.60 - 0.30 3.55
Eurofund 42.71 45.24 + 0.01 0.88
Growth & Inc 229.90 243.70 - 0.30 3.09
High Dist 154.50 164.20 + 0.60 4.57
International 364.90 387.60 - 0.70 0.64
Intl Income 94.21 100.60 + 0.10 2.58
Latin American 39.57 42.04 + 0.46 0.30
Pacific 83.15 88.19 + 0.07 0.35
Smllr Jap Cos 75.12 79.83 + 0.18 ..
Tokyo 215.00 228.20 + 1.90
UK Smaller Cos 218.40 232.00 + 0.51 1.08
Formerly Target
Financial 47.99 50.90 + 0.03 2.36
Japan & General 166.00 175.50 + 1.50 ..
Preference Share 24.30 25.50 + 0.10 7.14

ELCON LTD
Central Ct, Knoll Rise, Orpington BR6 0JA 0689 70538
Elcon Trust 207.20 217.20

ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD
41 Harrington Gardens, London SW7 4JU 071 373 7261
Endurance Fd 191.30 203.50 - 1.40 0.46

EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
Walton St, Aylesbury, Bucks HP21 7QW 0296 431 480
European 72.34 76.15 + 0.06 1.77
Far Eastern 302.61 319.54 - 1.08 1.34
High Income 123.42 131.19 + 0.42 4.50
Intl Growth 111.01 118.05 + 0.19 1.26
North American 114.52 121.55 - 0.71 1.04
Pelican 113.42 119.30 + 0.44 3.14
Smaller Cos 72.03 76.56 + 0.14 1.95
Special Sits 87.40 92.99 + 0.12 2.00
Tst of Inv Tsts 172.52 191.60 + 0.72 2.06

EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD
1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge SE1 071 407 5966
Smaller Cos Inc 180.79 190.61 + 0.24 1.77
Smaller Cos Acc 322.41 330.42 + 0.40 1.77
Recovery 45.13 46.05 + 0.14 2.31

EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD
23 Cathedral Yard, Exeter EX1 1HB 0392 412 144
Balanced 116.73 124.12 + 0.62 5.04
Capital Growth 73.92 79.19 + 0.44
Fd of Inv Tsts 40.71 43.33 ... 0.26
High Income 47.14 50.29 + 0.12 8.91
Warrant 55.19 59.99 + 0.13
Zero Preference 36.60 38.94 + 0.13

FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD
16 West Street, Brighton BN1 2RE 0273 220 707
Family Asset Tst 70.59 75.09 ... 2.80
Family Income Tst 49.24 52.38 ... 5.26
Family Trust 79.16 84.21 ... 1.73
United Charities 233.00 247.80 .. 3.76

FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD
130 Tonbridge Rd, Tonbridge TN11 9DZ
Callfree: Private Clients 0800 414 161
Broker Dealings 0800 414 181
Cash Fund
Cash Fund 100.00 100.00 .. 5.00
Stabiliser Growth Range
Controlled Risk UK 25.12 26.47 ... 3.23
-do- Europe 25.08 26.42 + 0.02 4.94
-do- America 24.18 25.47 - 0.08 0.99
-do- Act Japan 28.84 30.48 + 0.20 0.84
Bond Funds
Gilt & Fxd Int 31.12 31.41 + 0.09 6.45
Intl Bond 32.72 34.20 + 0.16 4.98
Income Funds
High Income 27.55 28.99 - 0.07 5.03
Income Plus 118.30 125.80 - 0.10 3.54
Amer Eq Inc 48.27 51.21 - 0.15 0.78
European Income 40.87 43.46 + 0.18 2.76
Far East Inc 63.46 67.78 - 0.01 2.53
Global Convertible 23.60 25.18 + 0.02 2.40
Equity Funds
ASEAN 61.07 65.15 - 0.43 ...
American 229.20 242.00 - 2.40 ...
Amer Spec Sits 108.50 115.80 - 1.30 ..
Japan Smaller Cos 39.49 42.13 - 0.02 ...
European 152.60 162.30 + 0.80 ...
European Opps 56.00 59.55 + 0.31 ...
UK Growth 79.82 84.87 + 0.14 ...
Growth & Inc 149.50 159.00 + 0.30 3.17
Intl PEP 33.68 35.82 - 0.04 ...
Japan Spec Sits 88.82 94.87 - 0.61 ...
Japan 185.50 198.10 - 1.80 ...
Managed Intl 255.10 272.40 - 1.00 ...
Moneybuilder 48.47 51.71 + 0.02 ...
Recovery 39.92 42.45 + 0.36 ...
South E Asia 153.50 163.80 - 1.90 ...
Special Sits 473.50 503.50 - 0.20 ...
Specialist Funds
UK Index 107.00 112.70 ... 3.40
UK Reverse Index 84.83 89.33 + 0.12 4.31
Europe Index 114.40 120.50 + 1.00 4.73
-do- Reverse Index 72.73 77.02 - 0.66 7.64
America Index 103.30 108.80 - 0.60 0.93
-do- Reverse Index 95.02 100.20 + 0.37 1.06
Japan Index 126.90 133.60 + 0.20 1.04
-do- Reverse Index 103.60 109.10 + 0.60 1.55
Cash Accum Units 103.43 103.43 + 0.01 5.00
Fidelity Select Personal Pension Portfolios
American 203.00 216.10 - 2.30 ...
Amer Spec Sits 186.50 198.70 - 2.20 ...
Cash 152.80 162.90 ... ...
European 241.80 257.60 + 1.40 ...
1992 Euro Opps 217.60 231.80 + 1.20 ...
Gilt & Fixed Int 153.00 161.00 + 0.50 ...
Global Conv 123.20 131.30 ... ...
Income Plus 146.60 156.20 - 0.10 ...
Japan Spec Sits 116.20 123.80 + 0.90 ...
Japan 103.70 110.50 - 1.10 ...
Managed 179.10 190.80 ... ...
South East Asia 349.80 372.60 - 4.30 ...
Special Sits 172.10 183.30 ... ...
UK Growth 143.50 152.90 + 0.10 ...

FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD
31 Sun Street, London EC2M 2QP 071 377 9242
Balanced 132.00 135.30 ... 2.23
Inc Ptflio 85.47 87.09 + 0.23 3.67
Cap Ptflio 141.80 144.90 + 0.30 0.61
General Opps 123.20 125.00 ... 3.43
Growth Inc 29.88 30.46 + 0.05 2.24
Private Portfolio 412.00 420.10 ... 1.45

FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT
Admin. PO Box 2001, Brentwood, Essex CM13 1XR Enq: 071 454 1434 Dlg: 0277 261 010
Hypo Foreign & Colonial
European 106.00 112.10 + 0.50 0.47
Far Eastern 162.50 174.40 + 0.40 ...
High Income 23.52 25.05 + 0.04 10.00
Oseas Income 100.20 107.30 - 0.40 2.92
UK Growth 103.20 110.40 + 0.10 1.14
UK Income 104.80 112.40 + 0.30 5.34
US Smaller Cos 297.00 317.60 - 2.10 ...

FOSTER & BRAITHWAITE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD
1 White Hart Yard, London SE1 1NX 071 407 5966
High Inc Eqty 49.15 52.29 + 0.37 3.98
-do- Inv Tst Inc 72.19 76.80 + 0.26 4.04
Intl Growth 68.25 72.61 ... 1.24
Investment Trust 83.25 88.56 + 0.25 0.25
UK Smaller Cos 77.37 82.31 - 0.07 1.34

FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD
155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3FT 071 374 4100
American Growth 55.25 58.69 - 0.65 ...
(Accum Units) 55.25 58.69 - 0.65 ...
Amer Smllr Cos 486.80 520.90 - 5.60 ...
(Accum Units) 497.40 531.90 - 5.60 ...
Capital Tst 293.80 312.50 - 0.40 1.73
(Accum Units) 413.50 439.80 - 0.60 1.73
Conti Smllr Cos 52.92 56.64 + 0.14 0.78
(Accum Units) 55.32 59.21 + 0.15 0.78
Convertible 130.40 138.70 + 0.20 4.97
(Accum Units) 247.60 263.30 + 0.50 4.97
Emerging Markets 73.39 78.40 + 0.12 ...
(Accum Units) 73.39 78.40 + 0.12 ...
European 110.60 118.00 + 0.70 0.54
(Accum Units) 115.30 123.00 + 0.70 0.54
Extra Income 319.10 339.40 + 0.50 3.62
(Accum Units) 457.00 486.10 + 0.90 3.62
Financial 123.20 131.90 - 0.70 0.45
(Accum Units) 128.90 138.00 - 0.80 0.45
Gilt Trust 88.79 90.93 + 0.14 5.74
(Accum Units) 91.08 93.91 + 0.19 5.74
Health Fund Inc 137.70 147.10 - 0.10 ...
(Accum Units) 137.70 147.10 - 0.10 ...
Income & Growth 189.10 201.10 + 0.50 3.62
(Accum Units) 274.10 291.50 + 0.70 3.62
Intl Growth 361.30 395.30 - 1.90 ...
(Accum Units) 401.20 428.00 - 2.20 ...
Japan & Gen 189.90 202.30 + 1.00 ...
(Accum Units) 191.40 204.30 + 1.00 ...
Managed Port Inc 100.70 105.90 + 0.10 0.72
(Accum Units) 105.80 111.30 + 0.10 0.72
Monthly Income 161.20 171.40 + 0.30 3.73
Quarterly Income 52.97 56.34 + 0.12 5.38
(Accum Units) 54.17 57.62 + 0.12 5.38
Recovery 324.60 347.10 - 1.50 0.33
(Accum Units) 381.40 407.80 - 1.70 0.33
UK Growth 49.58 53.00 + 0.25 2.68
(Accum Units) 49.58 53.00 + 0.25 2.68

FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS
Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts
Dealing: 0722 411 411 Admin: 0722 411 622
FP Equity Dist 373.57 397.41 + 2.00 2.50
-do- Accum 769.70 818.83 + 4.12 2.50
FP Euro Gth Dist 122.71 130.54 + 0.75 0.66
-do- Accum 127.44 135.57 + 0.79 0.66
FP Fixed Int Dist 142.51 150.74 + 0.73 5.59
-do- Accum 243.88 257.97 + 1.26 5.59
FP Intl Gth Dist 87.17 92.73 + 0.11 0.56
-do- Accum 90.49 96.27 + 0.13 0.56
FP Nth Amer Dist 185.49 196.49 - 0.75 0.60
-do- Accum 202.16 214.15 - 0.81 0.60
FP Pac Basin Dist 292.81 311.50 - 0.80 0.01
-do- Accum 298.39 317.44 - 0.82 0.01
Stewardship Dist 320.14 340.57 + 0.77 1.87
-do- Accum 384.32 408.85 + 0.93 1.87
Swrdshp Inc Dist 69.43 73.86 + 0.38 3.28
-do- Accum 87.07 92.63 + 0.36 3.28
N Am Stshp Dist 102.53 109.07 - 1.04 ...
-do- Accum 108.46 115.38 - 1.10 ...

GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
PO Box 237, York YO1 1LA 0345 581 106/7
GANDA 228.20 241.30 + 0.80 2.13
Cash 49.36 50.10 + 0.01 4.73
Growth Portfolio 79.54 84.31 - 0.53 0.36
Income Portfolio 67.18 71.04 - 0.29 3.61

GT UNIT MANAGERS LTD
Alban Gate, 14th Floor, 125 London Wall, London EC2Y 5AS 071 710 4567
Dealing: 071 626 9431
Amer Spec Sits 155.30 166.10 - 2.30 ...
European 475.70 506.60 - 3.70 1.42
Far East & Gen 268.00 286.60 + 0.70 0.26
Germany 121.30 129.00 + 1.40 ...
Global Assets Inc 79.60 84.42 - 0.19 0.89
Income Inc 144.00 154.10 - 0.20 5.12
International 325.10 346.40 - 2.40 0.67
Intl Income 85.69 90.97 - 0.06 3.58
Japan & General 419.60 445.20 + 2.40 ..
Korean Securities 63.06 67.34 - 1.23 0.19
Smllr Cos Div Inc 47.93 51.27 - 0.27 5.66
UK Capital (Inc) 172.50 184.50 - 0.20 1.90
UK Spec Sits 84.32 90.19 + 0.07 0.37
US & General 130.70 138.70 - 0.90 ...
Wwide Spec Sits 152.70 162.70 - 0.80 0.16

GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS
Gartmore House, 16-18 Monument St, London EC3R 8AJ 071 782 2000 Dlgs only: 0277 264 421
Investor Services: Freephone 0800 289 336
UK Growth Funds
British Growth 48.71 52.16 + 0.12 2.03
Cash Trust 131.19 131.19 + 0.01 5.07
Practical Inv Inc 117.56 119.66 + 0.19 3.69
UK Index 141.31 143.70 + 0.28 3.01
UK Smaller Cos 106.20 113.59 + 0.19 1.51
Income Funds
Preference Share 27.17 29.06 + 0.04 8.71
High Income 34.10 36.47 + 0.24 4.77
UK Equity Income 139.61 149.36 + 0.75 3.58
Global Bond 30.91 32.71 ... 4.50
International Funds
Emerging Markets 53.32 57.32 + 0.17
Global Inc & Gth 137.30 146.57 + 0.29 1.50
Gold & Intl Res 107.48 115.49 + 2.35 0.60
Global Utilities 129.81 139.52 + 2.95 0.71
Overseas Funds
American 128.72 138.24 - 1.66 0.49
European 92.90 98.46 + 0.51 0.52
Euro Sel Opps 116.34 122.38 + 3.77 0.23
Amer Emerging 97.51 104.57 ... ...
Hong Kong 156.57 167.30 - 1.76 0.90
Japan 225.42 241.29 + 1.89 ..
Pacific Growth 215.26 230.84 - 2.10 ..
Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds
Managed Equity 201.06 201.38 + 0.07 1.90
Long Term Bal 221.99 221.97 + 0.25 2.03
Med Term Bal 158.51 158.57 + 1.29 2.57
UK Equity 221.43 221.43 + 0.72 1.53
UK Emerging Cos 130.76 130.73 - 0.25 2.07
American 221.75 221.75 - 2.03 1.25
Japan 130.18 130.18 + 1.26 ..
European 236.84 236.89 + 1.37 1.01
Index Linked Gilt 172.51 172.81 + 0.25 2.76
Fixed Interest 164.25 164.25 + 0.50 6.31
Amer Emerging 25.94 25.94 - 4.47 ...
Pacific 232.74 232.74 - 3.55 7.62
Emerging Mkts 168.45 168.45 + 1.30 ..
Index Strat Japan 152.99 152.99 ... 0.26
-do- Pacific Rim 191.79 191.79 ... 1.39
-do- Cont Europe 136.29 136.29 ... 1.57
Index Strat USA 132.10 132.10 ... 2.10
Gartmore Personal Pension Funds
Managed Equity 95.16 101.24 - 0.22 ...
Med Term Bal 99.67 95.40 + 0.15
Long Term Bal 100.08 106.47 + 0.14
UK Equity 102.22 108.76 + 0.08
UK Emerging Cos 61.34 65.25 - 0.13
American 107.50 114.68 - 1.00 ...
Japan 62.71 66.71 + 0.65
European 98.92 105.24 + 0.48
Fixed Interest 92.24 97.49 + 0.27 ...
Index Linked Gilt 76.58 81.45 + 0.17 ...
Deposit 76.00 90.85 ... ...
Broker Unit Trusts
Berkeley Intl Gth 120.45 126.79 + 0.96 ..
Berkeley Income 111.25 117.10 - 0.05 2.18
BWH Intl 132.72 139.71 + 0.32 0.61
Brclff Gth Port Inc 58.62 62.08 + 0.73 2.50
-do- Inc Port Inc 57.78 60.95 + 0.27 3.75
-do- Wwide Port 52.15 55.01 + 0.08 1.00
Shaw Utilities 53.10 56.04 + 0.47 2.53

GLENFRIARS UNIT TST MGRS LTD
22 Suffolk St, London SW1Y 4HS 071 930 7333
Inv Opportunities 129.10 137.10
Higher Income 121.40 128.70 ... 1.59

GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT
GAM Sterling Management Ltd
12 St James's Place, London SW1 071 493 9990
& Intl Inc 53.13 56.05 ... 0.25
European Inc 133.97 142.52 ... 2.41
Amalgam Inc 139.64 147.24 ... 3.29
N America Inc 314.52 334.91 -14.90
Far East Inc 312.67 332.63 ... 0.20
UK Divid Inc 152.43 162.16 ... 1.31

GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MGMT LTD
Shackleton House, 4 Battle Bridge Lane, London SE1 071 378 7979 Dealing: 071 407 7888
UK Equity Inc 82.00 87.21 - 0.71 4.02
UK Small Cos 46.35 47.57 - 0.26 1.16
British Growth 53.37 56.79 + 0.38 2.24
American Gwth 141.80 150.95 - 2.19 ...
Japan Gwth 80.71 85.30 + 0.74
Greater China 185.72 199.70 - 1.57 0.45
Pacific Strategy 160.90 172.08 - 1.67 0.15
European Gwth 74.46 79.64 + 0.21 0.52
Intl Growth 146.17 156.33 + 0.14 0.24
US Index (E) 13.718 14.455 -0.036 1.90
FT-SE Mid 250 Ind 71.34 75.50 - 0.28 2.15
Monthly Income 46.08 48.89 + 0.24 10.00
MIS Unit Trust Dealing: 071 865 0033
UK Index (E) 11.325 11.841 -0.003 4.40
Euro Index (E) 12.430 13.007 -0.057 4.50
Japan Index (E) 10.564 11.056 +0.014 1.85
US Index (E) 14.434 15.100 -0.039 1.50
Cash (E) 9.5220 9.5696 -0.000 5.10
UK Bear (E) 7.7509 8.1051 -0.005 4.40
European Bear (E) 8.5079 8.9008 -0.027 4.30
Japan Bear (E) 13.933 14.583 +0.054 1.85
US Bear (E) 9.2870 9.7166 +0.075 1.50
Dollar Bull (E) 16.052 16.803 +0.113 1.50
Dollar Bear (E) 7.0468 7.3658 -0.022 4.40
Gilt Bull (E) 11.635 12.162 +0.014 4.40
Gilt Bear (E) 7.3712 7.7050 -0.015 4.40
Dollar Cash (E) 10.796 10.850 +0.004 1.90
Grd UK Index (E) 11.113 11.706 -0.092 4.40

GRANVILLE UNIT TST MGMT LTD
Mint Hse, 77 Mansell St, London E1 8AF 071 488 1212
Small Cos 86.45 91.97 - 1.11 1.41
Bridge Income 264.65 281.55 + 2.03 5.16

GUARDIAN ROYAL EX UT MGRS LTD
36 Harbour Exchange Sq, London E14 9GE 071 538 9868
Cash 133.30 133.30 .. 5.21
European 412.30 440.30 + 1.70 0.13
Gilt & Fixed 134.60 142.80 + 1.10 4.76
Growth Equity 312.60 333.90 + 0.50 2.00
Income Trust 121.80 130.10 + 1.00 3.08
International 178.30 190.40 + 0.40 ..
Japan Trust 128.70 137.40 + 1.80 ...
Nth American 272.40 291.00 - 2.10 0.26
Pacific 544.10 581.20 - 2.00 ...
Guardhill 462.50 494.10 + 2.10 2.08

GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD
5 Gainsford Street, London SE1 2NE 071 522 2129
EMU Trust 114.84 119.20 + 0.36 7.68
Global High Inc 117.45 121.91 + 0.99 7.85
Prem Fixed Int 115.56 119.96 + 0.44 7.53
Eqty & Bond Inc 102.43 108.91 + 0.92 5.50
European Growth 90.36 96.08 + 1.13 ...
Intl PEP Trust 57.50 61.13 + 0.48 ...
High Income 114.36 121.60 + 0.94 3.33
Recovery 333.30 354.40 + 1.10 3.47
St Vinc High Inc 128.38 130.30 + 4.43 7.57
Tmp Bar Emer Co 217.90 231.70 +10.60 2.84
Tmp Br Sm Co In 317.20 322.90 + 0.90 3.10

HALIFAX STANDARD TST MGT LTD
PO Box 600, Edinburgh EH15 1EW 0800 838 868
Global Advtg Inc 38.18 40.48 + 0.20 1.50
Income Advtg Inc 32.18 34.12 + 0.20 3.45

HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex
Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 690 390
Model Pfolio 189.70 201.30 - 0.40 2.35
Smaller Cos 32.06 34.11 - 0.05 1.82

HENDERSON UNIT TST MGMT LTD
PO Box 2157, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4ET
Enquiries: 0277 263 290 Dealing: 0277 234 772
UK Funds
Special Sits 273.40 292.53 - 0.86 1.48
Best of British 59.88 64.01 + 0.13 2.16
UK Smaller Cos 114.73 123.36 - 0.38 1.50
High Income Funds
Income & Growth 259.74 276.62 + 0.37 3.14
High Income 311.65 333.15 + 0.41 3.84
Extra Income 281.54 299.72 + 0.65 4.30
Pref & Gilt 48.53 52.16 + 0.08 7.97
International
International 256.38 273.71 + 0.95 0.39
Global Bond 59.52 63.31 + 0.12 6.20
Family of Funds 77.85 82.90 + 0.21 0.49
Global Tech 144.80 154.86 - 2.19 ...
Overseas Funds
Asian Enterprise 173.22 185.24 - 1.77 0.18
European 434.24 459.48 + 2.82 0.30
European Income 79.49 84.07 + 0.28 2.33
Euro Smlr Cos 134.79 143.20 + 0.78 0.42
Eur Sp Sits 56.32 59.93 + 0.27 0.45
Japan Trust 215.42 229.41 + 2.11 ...
Japan Special Sits 245.32 261.39 + 2.17 ...
Pacific Smlr Cos 246.40 262.12 - 0.97 ...
North American 234.33 249.48 - 1.74 0.11
American Smaller 104.05 111.22 - 1.28 ...
Henderson TR Pension Portfolio
American Growth 56.14 59.51 - 0.66 ...
Eur Sp Sits 48.95 51.89 + 0.23 ...
General Growth 40.41 42.83 + 0.08 ...
Global Tech 57.58 61.04 - 0.86 ...
Income Growth 38.94 41.27 + 0.05 ...
Japan Growth 26.65 28.25 + 0.26 ...
Overseas Growth 38.04 40.32 + 0.14 ...
Smaller Cos 20.62 21.86 + 0.14 ...
Special Opps 27.16 28.79 - 0.09 ...
Sterling Liquidity 35.98 37.48 ... ...
Wwide Sp Sits 47.43 50.28 + 0.18 ...

HILL SAMUEL UNIT TST MGRS
NLA Tower Addiscombe Road, Croydon 081 686 4355
British 94.81 101.40 + 1.10 1.94
Capital 166.30 177.80 - 0.70 1.71
Dollar 335.90 359.20 - 2.70 0.01
European 222.70 238.10 + 0.90 0.45
Far East 306.30 327.50 - 2.10 0.25
Financial 792.40 847.40 - 1.30 1.42
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc 28.19 28.28 + 0.14 7.04
High Yield 110.60 118.20 - 0.10 4.15
Income & Growth 144.80 154.80 + 0.50 3.14
International 237.40 253.80 + 2.00 0.07
Japanese General 194.10 207.50 + 1.90 ...
Japan Tech 69.74 74.58 + 0.50 ...
Nat Resources 67.01 71.66 - 0.09 0.50
Portfolio 70.63 75.54 + 0.83 1.84
Security 318.50 340.60 + 0.90 1.89
Smaller Cos 117.60 125.70 ... 1.39
Special Sits 144.60 154.60 + 0.60 1.43
UK Emerging Cos 76.15 81.44 + 0.15 0.33
US Smaller Cos 75.89 81.16 - 2.19 ...

HSBC UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
7 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4HU
Dlg: 071 955 5055 Enq: 0800 181 890
James Capel Unit Trusts
Dlg: 071 955 5055 Enq: 0800 181 890
Index Funds
American Index 203.50 217.00 - 0.60 1.18
Eurotrack 100 149.00 158.10 + 0.90 0.99
Footsie Fund 116.90 123.40 + 0.20 2.61
Japan Index 82.10 87.53 + 0.99 0.13
Tiger Index 194.90 208.00 - 0.90 0.47
Triple Index 110.10 117.50 - 0.10 1.87
UK Index 133.60 142.60 + 0.30 2.79
Active Funds
American Growth 471.80 503.50 ... 0.16
Capital 570.80 609.20 + 1.90 2.20
European Growth 96.17 102.20 + 0.70 0.32
Far East Growth 107.50 114.70 + 0.40 ...
Global Bond 24.82 26.16 + 0.06 5.42
Hong Kong Gwth 114.90 122.60 - 1.70 0.55
Income 547.40 584.20 + 2.30 3.81
Intl Growth 79.02 84.24 + 0.25 0.10
Japan Growth 282.40 301.40 + 3.70 ...
Japan Smllr Cos 35.80 38.15 + 0.05 ...
Spore & Mlysn Gth 75.42 80.49 - 1.34 ...
Midland Unit Trusts
Dealing 0742 520300
Enquiries 0742 529076
Balanced 59.98 64.15 + 0.10 2.60
(Accum Units) 61.68 65.96 + 0.11 2.60
British Tst 81.72 87.40 + 0.29 1.94
(Accum Units) 92.50 98.93 + 0.33 1.94
European Growth 195.30 208.90 + 2.20 0.45
(Accum Units) 246.90 264.00 + 2.80 0.45
Extra High Inc 72.77 77.83 - 0.60 5.79
(Accum Units) 131.60 140.70 - 1.10 5.79
FT-SE 100 Index 52.16 55.79 + 0.10 2.42
(Accum Units) 52.94 56.62 + 0.10 2.42
Gilt & Fxd Int 59.66 62.11 + 0.15 6.22
(Accum Units) 161.40 168.00 + 0.40 6.22
High Yield 232.60 248.80 + 0.80 4.66
(Accum Units) 557.90 596.60 + 1.90 4.66
Income 295.60 316.20 + 1.20 2.72
(Accum Units) 625.10 668.50 + 2.60 2.72
Japan Growth 352.60 377.10 + 3.70 ...
(Accum Units) 372.10 397.90 + 3.90 ...
Mandarin Tst 125.30 134.00 - 1.00 0.65
(Accum Units) 131.00 140.10 - 1.00 0.65
Money Market UT 49.26 49.26 + 0.01 4.64
(Accum Units) 74.02 74.02 + 0.02 4.64
North American 176.70 189.00 - 0.70 0.44
(Accum Units) 223.40 238.90 - 0.90 0.44
Midland Personal Pension Unit Trust
British 96.07 102.20 + 0.30 1.92
European Growth 93.08 99.02 + 1.07 0.02
Gilt & Fixed 88.30 93.72 + 0.22 5.92
Income 83.31 88.63 + 0.33 2.98
Japan Growth 52.52 55.87 + 0.56 ..
Managed 67.17 71.46 + 0.12 2.46
Money Market 82.02 86.94 + 0.03 4.62
North American 86.02 91.51 - 0.26 0.49
Midland FSAVCS Unit Trust
British 87.34 92.91 + 0.29 1.90
European Growth 87.72 93.32 + 0.05 0.02
Gilt & Fixed Int 83.40 88.57 + 0.21 5.93
Income 81.86 87.12 + 0.33 2.95
Japan Growth 52.44 55.79 + 0.56 ..
Managed 64.29 68.39 + 0.12 2.43
Money Market 75.92 80.37 + 0.02 4.57
North American 79.47 84.42 - 0.26 0.59
Midland Executive Pension Unit Trust
British 87.69 97.29 + 0.29 1.89
European Growth 85.64 91.11 + 0.95 ..
Gilt & Fixed Int 77.60 82.35 + 0.19 5.90
Income 81.51 86.71 + 0.32 2.95
Japan Growth 53.69 57.09 + 0.57 ..
Managed 67.61 71.97 + 0.12 2.41
Money Market 71.40 75.69 + 0.02 4.60
North American 86.93 92.48 - 0.29 0.45

INVESCO FUND MANAGERS LTD
11 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4YR 071 626 3434 Dealing: 0800 010 733
UK Specialist Trusts
Investment Tst 67.68 71.91 + 0.15 0.97
Smaller Cos 27.18 29.05 - 0.02 1.78
Special Features 30.25 32.14 + 0.04 1.58
(Accum Units) 36.05 38.32 + 0.05 1.58
General Funds
Assets & Earnings 75.23 79.97 + 0.26 1.91
Accum Units 89.79 95.29 + 0.30 1.91
General Equities 73.05 77.61 + 0.06 2.61
Great British Cos 50.40 53.52 + 0.12 1.60
Managed Invest 96.51 103.00 ... 1.05
PEP Managed 66.92 73.50 + 0.12 2.08
Rupert Child Tst 80.87 86.30 + 0.22 1.93
UK Growth 58.26 62.07 + 0.17 1.57
High Income Funds
Cashbox (Dist) 50.50 50.57 ... 4.21
Cashbox (Acc) 56.44 56.64 ... 4.21
Extra Income 86.65 92.56 + 0.21 4.60
Gilt 30.12 31.72 + 0.10 5.76
Income & Growth 41.31 44.03 + 0.08 3.30
Monthly Gilt & FI 80.24 82.05 + 0.25 7.28
Preference Shares 18.45 19.61 ... 6.45
UK Income 335.80 358.80 - 1.70 3.00
Sector Specialist Funds
Fin Securities 66.07 70.19 - 0.19 0.98
Property Shares 77.37 83.25 + 0.34 1.40
Overseas Growth Funds
American Growth 51.30 54.64 - 0.47 0.75
US Smaller Cos 118.10 125.40 - 0.72 ..
(Accum Units) 119.40 125.90 - 0.70 ...
Europe Port 133.00 140.00 + 1.00 ..
(Accum Units) 137.80 145.70 + 1.00 ..
Euro Smaller Cos 25.01 26.67 + 0.17
French Growth 74.53 79.37 + 0.20 0.13
Accum Units 79.62 84.47 + 0.22 0.13
H Kong & China 97.61 103.73 - 2.10 0.39
Intl Growth 55.97 59.46 - 0.11 0.18
Accum Units 56.22 59.73 + 0.12 0.18
Japan Perf 33.48 35.55 + 0.23
Accum Units 33.48 35.55 + 0.20 ...
Japan Smaller Cos 39.63 42.08 + 0.03 ...
Singapore ASEAN 110.70 117.60 - 0.60 ...
Accum Units 111.60 118.50 - 0.50
SE Asia 311.10 330.50 - 2.40 0.02
Overseas Income Funds
Global Income 92.30 98.47 + 0.05 1.90
Intl Bond 60.18 60.95 + 0.11 5.08

JUPITER MERLIN UT MGRS LTD
197 Knightsbridge, London SW7 1RB 071 581 3020
American Cap 178.90 190.30 - 2.21 ..
Income 136.70 147.08 - 1.57 4.38
Fxs & General 150.80 160.40 + 1.40
UK Growth 50.51 53.74 + 0.64 1.70
International 77.74 82.70 + 0.27 1.00
Ecology 81.23 86.41 + 0.38 0.60
European 102.04 108.28 + 0.17
Far Eastern 339.80 361.50 + 0.00 ..

KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS
10 Fenchurch Street London EC3
Dealers: 071 956 7354 Admin: 071 956 6608
Income Trusts
Extra Income 56.06 59.64 + 0.13 6.50
(Accum Units) 77.10 82.02 + 0.18 6.50
Gilt Yield 126.50 133.40 + 0.30 6.76
(Accum Units) 364.80 385.00 + 0.90 6.76
Global Income 227.70 242.20 + 2.73 3.56
(Accum Units) 502.30 534.40 + 6.00 3.56
High Yield 143.40 152.60 + 0.64 5.62
(Accum Units) 408.70 434.80 + 1.92 5.62
Smllr Cos Div 53.94 57.38 + 0.02 3.44
(Accum Units) 67.40 71.70 + 0.03 3.44
Capital Growth Trusts
Amer Smllr Cos 95.88 102.00 - 0.70 ...
(Accum Units) 99.26 105.60 + 0.80 ...
North American 78.87 83.90 + 0.03 0.40
(Accum Units) 96.54 102.70 ... 0.40
European Special 85.78 91.26 + 0.35 1.37
(Accum Units) 89.99 95.73 + 0.35 1.37
European 144.60 153.80 + 0.60 1.45
(Accum Units) 189.20 201.30 + 0.90 1.45
General 276.30 293.90 + 1.00 3.04
(Accum Units) 453.90 482.90 + 1.80 3.04
Japan 431.80 459.40 + 2.80 ...
(Accum Units) 436.60 464.50 + 2.80 ...
Japanese Special 246.80 262.50 + 1.80 ...
(Accum Units) 248.00 263.80 + 1.80 ...
Master Accum 237.40 252.60 + 0.40 0.85
Pacific 336.20 357.70 - 0.60 0.41
(Accum Units) 394.30 419.50 - 0.70 0.41
Smaller Cos 106.10 112.90 - 0.22 1.50
(Accum Units) 143.30 152.40 - 0.30 1.50
UK Equity Growth 39.72 42.25 + 0.18 1.66
(Accum Units) 73.91 78.63 + 0.32 1.66

KNIGHT WILLIAMS PRTFOL MGRS
161 New Bond Street, London W1Y 9LA 071 629 1603
High Income (Inc) 54.70 58.19 + 0.30 4.40
Global Growth PEP 58.01 61.71 + 0.17 ...
Inv Trust PEP 47.83 50.88 - 0.08 ...
Higher Risk Invest 51.95 55.26 - 0.33 ...

LAS UNIT TST MGRS LTD
113 Dundas St, Edinburgh EH3 5EB 031 550 5151
European 84.30 89.68 + 0.72 0.86
Extra Income 25.48 27.11 + 0.16 3.52
Far East 31.86 33.89 + 0.17 0.26
Income & Gwth 76.63 81.52 + 0.43 2.82
Intl Growth 57.38 61.04 + 0.03 0.56
Japan 67.75 72.07 + 0.88 ...
Maximum Dist 100.30 102.30 + 0.10 6.81
Nth Amer Equity 40.75 43.35 - 0.43 0.37
UK Equity 91.16 96.98 + 0.49 2.62

L & C UNIT TST MGMT LTD
Broadwalk Hse, 5 Appold St EC2A 2DA 071 588 2800
Income 602.70 615.00 ... 5.27
Intl & General 400.10 408.30 ... 0.63

LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MGMT
1 White Hart Yard SE1 071 407 5966
Inc & Growth Inc 56.16 59.75 + 0.13 4.18
Smaller Cos 48.76 51.60 - 0.14 0.97

LAURENTIAN UNIT TST MGMT LTD
Laurentian Hse, Barnwood, Gloucester GL4 7RZ Enq: 0452 371 500 Dlg: 0452 371 623
Growth Trust 239.90 255.20 - 0.20 1.92
High Income 110.60 117.70 - 0.10 3.55
International 91.99 97.86 + 0.29 0.22
Recovery Trust 60.90 64.79 + 0.13 1.33
European Trust 75.07 79.86 - 0.42 1.04
Japanese Trust 45.48 48.38 + 0.56 ...
American Trust 78.31 83.31 - 0.60 ..
Managed 64.12 68.21 + 0.05 0.50
Cash 51.23 51.23 + 0.01 4.74

LAZARD UNIT TST MGRS LTD
21 Moorfields, London EC2P 2HT 071 374 0916
UK Cap 340.60 345.50 + 2.40 2.83
UK Inc/Gth 374.10 379.70 + 3.50 3.35
UK Income 266.30 270.50 + 2.50 3.78
UK Sm Cos 228.30 237.10 - 0.50 1.66
Euro Gwth 111.20 112.30 + 1.10 0.34
N Amer Gwth 79.91 80.80 + 0.28 0.16
Jap & Pac Gth 82.18 83.31 + 0.02 ...
Money Mkt 116.36 116.36 ... 2.430

LEGAL & GENERAL (UT MGRS) LTD
5 Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex
Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 690 395
Equity Dist 457.00 486.20 + 1.00 2.48
Equity Income 99.92 106.30 + 0.50 3.53
UK Tactical Allocm 55.76 59.21 - 0.07 3.92
European 107.90 114.80 + 0.80 0.98
Far Eastern 226.30 240.70 - 0.20 ...
Fixed Interest 56.45 59.96 + 0.13 6.7
Gilt 97.42 103.30 + 0.50 5.99
Global Growth 76.76 81.66 + 0.10 0.01
Intl Bond 58.50 62.10 + 0.10 4.30
Japanese 73.10 77.77 + 0.57 ...
North American 152.50 162.20 - 1.00 0.30
Pacific Growth 119.80 127.40 - 0.40 0.23
UK Index 60.27 63.61 + 0.19 2.94
UK Recovery 86.47 91.99 + 0.17 1.88
UK Smaller Cos 114.30 121.60 ... 0.90
US Index 60.48 63.83 - 0.39 1.66
European Index 68.90 72.72 + 0.56 1.61
Japan Index 42.79 45.16 + 0.52 ...
Worldwide 82.39 87.65 + 0.22 1.51

LINCOLN NATIONAL FD MGRS LTD
1 Olympic Way, Wembley HA9 0NB 081 902 8876 Dealing: 0800 282 621
Growth 47.41 50.71 + 0.14 3.29
Income 58.54 62.61 + 0.18 3.80
Far East 56.68 60.62 - 0.06 ...
North American 96.87 103.60 - 2.00 ...
Global 97.15 103.90 - 0.50 0.39
European 82.05 87.56 - 0.44 0.90
Japan 114.50 122.50 + 1.10 ...
Intl Currency Bd 61.03 64.77 + 0.03 5.88
SE Asia 118.20 126.40 - 1.20 0.79
UK Capital Growth 85.99 91.97 - 0.48 2.05

LLOYDS BK UNIT TST MGRS LTD
PO Box 63, Chatham, Kent ME4 4YB
Helpdesk: 0634 834 339 Dealing: 0634 834 313
Balanced 333.90 355.30 + 5.80 2.66
Cash 502.10 502.10 ... 4.99
Conti Europe Gwth 58.25 61.32 + 0.94 0.89
Extra Income 251.20 267.30 + 1.10 3.84
German Growth 133.10 129.60 + 1.30 ..
Growth Portfolio 522.30 555.70 + 1.50 0.31
Income 479.80 510.50 + 9.40 3.57
Income Portfolio 513.10 545.90 + 2.20 4.02
Japan Growth 102.80 109.40 + 0.60 ...
Master Trust 56.87 60.50 + 0.14 1.30
N Amer & Gen 197.60 210.30 - 0.80 ...
N Am Sm Co Rec 149.10 158.70 - 5.50 ...
Pacific Basin 284.40 302.60 - 3.30 0.42
Small Cos & Recy 321.10 338.00 - 0.60 2.24
UK Equity Gwth 127.60 135.80 + 0.40 2.95
UK Equity Inc 111.00 118.10 + 0.50 4.45
UK Growth 82.02 87.26 - 0.63 2.18
Worldwide Gwth 317.50 337.80 ... 0.19
Premier Exempt 132.60 138.80 ... 2.59

LONDON & MANCHESTER TST MGMT
Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS 0392 282 673
American 64.18 68.96 - 0.42 0.30
General 83.21 89.28 + 0.38 2.60
Income 66.41 71.26 + 0.35 5.00
International 62.47 67.03 + 0.07 0.70
Japan 53.97 57.91 + 0.49 ...
Tst of Inv Trusts 65.42 70.19 + 0.32 1.70

M & G SECURITIES
M & G House, Victoria Road, Chelmsford CM1 1FB Cust Svcs/Unit Dlg: 0245 390 390
Amer & General 410.40 434.00 + 0.40 0.70
Amer Recovery 461.70 488.30 + 3.10 0.27
Amer Smllr Cos 132.50 140.10 - 2.10 ...
Australasian 156.80 165.80 + 0.70 1.19
Capital 742.30 785.00 + 4.40 2.32
Charifund 691.60 698.60 + 7.20 5.22
Commodity 324.80 343.50 + 2.80 0.80
Compound Gwth 868.50 918.40 + 7.90 2.57
Dividend 38.50 40.70 + 0.40 4.02
Equity Income 326.80 345.60 + 1.40 4.44
Euro & General 453.50 479.60 + 4.10 0.68
Euro Dividend 66.80 70.60 + 0.70 3.63
Extra Yield 412.10 435.80 + 3.90 4.08
Far Eastern 371.50 392.90 - 3.50 0.39
Fund of Inv Tsts 587.70 621.50 + 3.50 1.83
General 59.10 62.50 + 0.50 3.30
Gilt Income 67.09 67.20 + 0.42 7.02
Gold 66.60 70.40 - 0.40 0.57
High Income 26.00 29.60 + 0.20 4.09
Intl Growth 77.40 81.90 + 0.40 0.72
International Inc 102.30 108.20 + 0.30 4.15
Japan & Gen 47.60 50.30 + 0.40 ..
Japan Smlr Cos 157.40 166.50 + 1.90 ..
Managed Income 27.60 29.00 + 0.10 3.88
Midland 58.30 61.60 + 0.10 3.03
Pension Ex 604.00 926.70 + 7.50 4.02
Recovery 39.10 41.40 + 0.30 2.48
Second General 67.10 71.00 + 0.40 3.45
Smaller Cos 65.20 69.00 .. 2.89
Treasury 25.06 25.08 .. 5.16
Trustee 41.00 43.40 + 0.40 3.63

MGM UNIT MANAGERS LTD
MGM House, Heene Rd, Worthing Dealing: 0277 261 010 Enq: 0903 204 631
European Growth 73.42 78.10 + 0.38 0.50
High Income 290.00 308.50 + 1.30 4.22
Intl Bond 69.57 73.02 + 0.19 4.49
Intl Equity Growth 67.14 71.42 .. 0.56
N Amer Growth 98.11 104.37 - 0.48 0.81
Special Sits Growth 20.60 21.91 - 0.01 2.01
UK Growth 360.80 383.80 + 1.80 2.66

MW INVESTMENT MANAGERS LTD
46 Court St, Haddington, E Lothian 062 082 5067
Joint Investors 1258.3 1264.7 ... 3.50

MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
c/o Baillie Gifford 1 Rutland Ct EH3 8EY 031 222 4242
Maldon General 135.80 139.70 .. 4.15

MANULIFE MANAGEMENT LTD
St George's Way, Stevenage Dealing: 0438 747 444
Growth Units 183.71 196.50 + 0.90 2.27
Gilt & Fxd Int 188.00 197.80 + 1.10 6.51
Intl Growth 210.30 225.10 - 0.30 0.14
North American 181.00 193.70 - 1.50 0.24
Far East 254.20 271.90 - 2.80 0.25
UK Smaller Cos 149.40 159.50 - 0.20 1.77
European 73.68 78.94 + 0.27 0.12
Japanese Growth 45.54 48.47 + 0.20
Managed Pfolio 67.72 72.44 + 0.13 1.38
High Income 187.50 200.50 + 4.00 4.11

MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD
PO Box 400, Chester X CH99 9QG 0244 690 066
M & S Inv Pfolio 149.90 159.20 + 0.19 1.87
-do- Accum 166.80 178.40 + 0.19 1.87
UK Sel Pfolio 123.00 132.20 + 0.30 2.10
-do- Accum 139.70 149.40 + 0.30 2.10

MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD
57 Victoria Square, Bolton BL1 1LA 0204 364 842
Managed Tst 70.17 74.66 - 0.03 3.20

MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD
Saltire Ct, 20 Castle Terrace, Edinburgh 031 479 4646
Intl Income 75.06 79.68 + 0.38 4.04
European 79.06 83.95 + 0.32 0.06
Income & Growth 76.58 81.26 + 0.02 3.08
Nth American 62.05 65.87 - 0.79 0.07
Far East 160.20 170.10 - 0.90 ..
Charities 115.70 122.90 + 1.11 3.96
Japan 56.63 60.12 + 0.00 ..
Emgng Mkts 106.70 116.30 - 0.60 0.15
Intl Growth 107.20 113.85 + 0.50 0.16
UK Growth 80.80 85.77 + 0.05 1.83

MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD
33 King William St EC4R 9AS Dealing: 071 280 2860
American 204.10 217.10 - 0.80
American Opps 90.06 96.04 - 0.09 ...
British Blue Chip 76.71 81.63 - 0.08 3.09
Cash 100.40 100.40 ... 5.33
Emerging Mkts 117.50 126.30 + 0.10
European Growth 224.10 238.80 - 1.80 0.66
European Income 82.45 87.71 + 0.39 2.78
General 473.10 525.10 + 6.00 2.30
Govt Securities 101.80 104.90 + 0.30 6.78
Gold & General 170.40 181.20 - 1.30 0.51
Global Bond 133.60 140.40 + 0.20 5.67
Income 150.50 160.10 + 1.50 4.26
International 431.30 460.00 + 0.60 0.60
Japan 191.70 203.20 + 1.90 ..
Long-Dtd Stlg Bd 107.10 112.80 + 0.40 7.09
New Europe 160.70 171.40 + 1.40 1.51
Pacific 128.80 137.40 - 0.80 0.61
Portfolio 79.06 84.08 + 0.56 2.69
Recovery 303.80 324.10 + 1.60 2.77
UK Smaller Cos 54.73 58.38 - 1.16 1.86
Institutional Funds
UK Equity 536.30 550.10 + 4.30 3.02
Amer Sm Cos Eqty 91.97 94.33 - 1.40 ...
The World Trader Funds
Euro Eqty Bear (E) 8.6764 9.0766 -0.060 6.70
Euro Eqty Bll (E) 10.878 11.345 +0.048 6.70
Jap Eqty Bear (E) 10.743 11.182 +0.026 2.00
Jap Eqty Bull (E) 8.8260 9.1982 -0.025 2.00
UK Eqty Bear (E) 9.1432 9.5145 -0.011 4.80
UK Eqty Bull (E) 10.350 10.771 +0.014 4.80
UK Gilt Bear (E) 8.9289 9.2907 -0.007 4.80
UK Gilt Bull (E) 10.553 10.979 +0.009 4.80
US Equity Bear (E) 9.4595 9.8390 +0.029 1.90
US Equity Bull (E) 10.006 10.412 -0.038 1.90
US Trsry Bear (E) 9.4210 9.8019 +0.098 1.90
US Trsry Bull (E) 10.082 10.490 -0.072 1.90
US Curcy Bear (E) 9.6634 10.054 -0.010 4.80
US Curcy Bull (E) 9.8085 10.206 +0.012 4.80
Mercury Ster (E) 9.7326 10.121 +0.001 5.10

METROPOLITAN UT MGRS LTD
3 Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 1AJ 0707 662 233
Eurogrowth Plus 106.23 113.01 + 0.84 0.91
Intl Strategy 61.87 65.82 + 0.11 0.69
UK Income Inc 76.45 81.33 + 0.25 5.98

MILLENNIUM FUND MGMT LTD
1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge SE1 071 407 5966
International (US$) 11.88 12.86 - 0.07 ...

MORGAN GRENFELL INVEST FDS LTD
20 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 1UT
Dealers: 071 826 0826 Enquiries: 071 826 0823
American Gwth 304.60 323.80 - 3.10 ...
European Gth Inc 340.30 362.70 + 0.70 ...
Intl Gwth 188.20 201.10 - 1.10 ...
UK Equity Inc 165.60 177.90 + 1.80 3.80
UK Ind Trckr Inc 153.80 164.60 - 1.60 2.92
US Eq Ind Trk Inc 200.60 212.80 - 1.30 1.36
Japan Tracker 78.80 83.46 + 0.96 ...
Asian Trader 219.70 238.60 - 3.30 0.35
Managed Inc 143.80 154.60 + 0.50 1.67
Deposit Inc 99.96 99.96 + 0.01 5.51
Europa 149.30 159.50 + 0.30 ...
Genesis 141.90 154.90 + 0.30 ...
High Income 23.99 25.48 + 0.04 10.00

MURRAY JOHNSTONE UT MGMT
7 West Nile St, Glasgow G1 2PX 0345 090 933
Acumen 93.48 99.57 + 0.25 2.19
Acumen Inc 89.99 92.00 + 0.24 2.19
Acumen Reserve 86.98 87.86 + 0.65 6.96
-do- Inc 80.36 81.18 - 0.60 6.96
American Income 174.80 179.20 - 2.10 1.53
Cash Income 49.63 50.13 ... 5.05
Equity Income 98.11 99.10 + 0.55 4.76
European 69.20 70.36 + 0.43 1.20
Smaller Cos 71.44 74.60 + 0.05 1.22
Olympiad 64.33 66.27 + 0.03 0.10
Global Bond 49.37 49.90 + 0.13 6.15
UK Growth 88.64 91.21 + 0.23 1.79
Pacific Growth 107.00 110.70 - 1.30 ...
Japan Growth 99.86 101.80 - 0.80 ...

NFU MUTUAL UNIT MGRS LTD
5 Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex
Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 261 010
Avon Equity 116.80 124.25 + 0.40 2.90

NM UNIT TRUST MGRS
Enterprise Hse, Isambard Brunel Rd, Portsmouth Enq: 0705 882 695 Dlg: 0705 882 680
NM Managed Portfolio Service
Cap Gth Inc Inc 104.00 110.60 + 0.30 1.64
Open Cap Gth Inc 106.10 112.80 + 0.40 2.04
NM Unit Trusts
American 45.31 48.33 - 0.43 1.14
Australian 323.10 346.60 - 0.30 ...
Conscience 64.91 69.27 - 1.39 1.32
European 189.40 201.40 - 1.30 0.78
Extra Income 77.02 82.19 + 0.12 5.40
Gilt & FI 62.09 65.53 + 0.24 5.82
Gold 52.77 56.74 - 0.33 ..
Income 56.35 60.10 + 0.07 4.70
Intnl 32.46 34.71 - 0.04 0.61
Jap Smaller Cos 344.90 367.80 - 1.00 ...
Sing & Malaysian 247.10 264.90 - 1.80 ...
Smaller Cos 27.54 29.61 + 0.41 0.72
Special Sits 34.45 37.04 + 0.07 1.89
Sterling Deposit 100.50 100.50 ... 5.25
Tokyo 95.63 91.33 + 0.87 ...
UK Equity 169.00 180.20 + 0.50 2.32
US Smaller Cos 111.00 118.70 - 0.90 ...

N&P UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD
35 Fountain St, Manchester M2 2AF 061 237 5322
UK Growth 72.01 76.61 + 0.17 2.46
UK Income 107.50 114.40 + 0.40 3.50
Gilt & Fixed Int 79.31 83.93 + 0.24 5.87
Higher Income 215.40 229.20 + 0.60 4.45
Smaller Cos 77.93 82.91 + 3.00 1.45
International 94.73 100.78 + 0.01 1.81

NATIONAL PROV INV MGRS LTD
48 Gracechurch St EC3P 3HH 071 623 4200
Americas Dist 107.10 114.50 - 1.00 ...
European Dist 96.61 103.33 + 0.32 ...
Far East Dist 170.90 182.80 - 0.60 ...
Global Care Dist 67.10 71.77 + 0.03 1.87
Oseas Dist 976.30 1044.2 + 2.40 0.20
UK Dist 332.10 355.20 + 0.80 2.40
UK Extra Inc Dist 73.86 78.99 - 0.22 3.78
Wwide Dist 98.47 105.31 + 0.20 ...
Wwide Inc Dist 66.24 70.84 + 0.03 2.44

NATIONAL WESTMINSTER UT MGRS
5 Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex Dlg: 0277 690 290 Admin Enq: 0277 690 395
Europe Inc 56.36 59.48 + 0.39 0.82
Fund of Funds Inc 55.48 58.55 + 0.05 0.67
North America Inc 50.14 52.92 - 0.25 0.53
UK Equity Gth Inc 55.51 58.59 + 0.03 1.91
UK General Inc 55.08 58.13 + 0.17 2.13
UK Gilt/Fix Int Inc 51.44 54.16 + 0.13 6.31
UK Income Inc 56.56 59.60 + 0.19 2.71

NEWTON FUND MGRS LTD
71 Queen Victoria St, London EC4V 4DR
Dealer: 0500 440 000 Private client: 0500 550 000 Broker: 0500 660 000
Income 220.13 234.19 + 0.39 3.50
Global 330.61 351.72 - 0.43 2.86
General 182.91 194.59 - 0.28 1.50
Bond 139.04 147.62 + 0.04 7.30
Growth 117.23 124.72 - 0.13 1.72
Intrepid 110.37 114.97 ... 1.70

NORWICH UNION TST MANAGERS
PO Box 124, Surrey Street, Norwich 0603 682 234
Master Trust 119.37 126.88 + 0.40 1.43
UK Equity 135.60 144.26 + 0.47 3.02
UK Equity Income 129.64 137.92 + 0.65 3.68
UK Smaller Cos 115.75 123.14 - 0.18 2.01
UK Equity Growth 124.11 132.03 + 0.35 2.31
UK Index Trckg 135.00 143.62 + 0.89 3.35
Intl Index Trckg 143.58 152.75 + 0.29 1.04
International 228.29 242.86 + 0.25 0.70
European 170.17 181.03 - 1.57 0.42
Pan European 121.44 129.19 + 0.81 1.13
Nth American 163.64 174.09 - 1.14 0.54
N Amer Smlr Cos 177.70 189.04 - 1.15 ...
Japanese 93.70 99.68 + 0.94 ...
Pacific 233.56 248.47 - 0.40 0.20
South East Asian 255.55 271.86 - 1.56 0.35
Intl Bond 139.65 148.56 + 0.38 4.53
Gilt & Convertible 115.19 122.54 + 0.17 7.48
Property 76.80 81.70 - 0.02 6.70

PEARL UNIT TRUSTS LTD
Pearl Centre, Lynch Wd, Peterborough PE2 6FY Dlg: 0800 626 577 Enq: 0733 470 470
Equity 234.60 249.50 + 1.10 2.21
Growth 148.10 155.80 + 0.50 2.41
Income 237.90 253.00 + 1.40 3.24
Intl Equity 244.00 259.50 + 0.80 0.66
UK Income 65.76 69.95 + 0.39 2.78
UK Intl 25 75.81 80.64 + 0.35 1.72
New Europe 69.14 73.55 + 0.74 0.79

PERPETUAL UNIT TST MGMT
48 Hart Street, Henley on Thames 0491 417 000
Intl Gwth 558.57 597.41 - 0.21 0.32
Income 326.63 349.34 + 1.90 2.94
Wwide Recovery 352.62 377.14 - 0.62 0.30
Amer Growth Inc 226.98 242.77 - 2.85 0.01
Intl Emerging Cos 230.56 246.59 - 0.20 0.01
Far Esn Grth Inc 268.17 286.82 - 0.50 0.07
Euro Gwth Inc 133.35 142.63 + 0.37 0.46
UK Growth Inc 83.43 89.24 + 0.34 2.53
High Income 91.76 98.14 + 0.25 4.09
Jap Gwth Inc 215.73 229.48 + 0.30 0.01
PLP Growth 113.18 121.05 - 0.09 1.09
Asian Sir Mkts Inc 130.62 139.76 - 1.38 0.01
Amer Smlr Co Inc 135.95 145.41 - 1.28 0.01
Global Bond 63.45 66.79 + 0.11 5.74
UK Smaller Cos Inc 72.44 77.48 + 0.05 1.57

PILGRIM UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
30 Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 6RQ Admin & dealing: Unit Trust Accounting & Mgmt Ltd, 1 White Hart Yard, London SE1 1NX 071 407 5966
American 105.06 111.77 + 0.55 ..
European 62.78 66.79 + 0.27 0.28
Global 63.46 67.51 + 0.37 ..
Pacific 64.29 68.39 + 0.21 0.06
UK Inc & Gth 61.32 65.29 + 0.09 2.79

POINTON YORK UT MGRS
The Crescent, King St, Leicester LE1 6RX 0533 558 540
BRI Director Digs 93.48 99.55 + 0.25 ...

PORTFOLIO TRUST MGRS LTD
1 White Hart Yard, London SE1 1NX 071 407 5966
Portfolio 151.83 154.93 .. 0.68

PREMIUM LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD
37 Perrymount Rd, Haywards Heath 0444 458 721
Monthly Income 54.56 57.83 + 0.08 2.71
Growth Income 54.44 57.70 + 0.26 1.55

PRINCIPAL UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
10 South Park, Sevenoaks TN13 1AN 0732 740 700
Principal Tst 129.09 137.33 + 0.31 1.84

PROLIFIC UNIT TST MGRS LTD
Walbrook Hse, 23 Walbrook EC4N 8LD
Enquiries: 071 280 3700 Dealing: 0800 262 443
American Income 101.20 107.81 - 0.40 2.59
Conv & Gilt 116.60 124.00 - 0.10 5.97
European Income 74.60 79.40 + 0.49 2.48
Extra Income 149.50 159.00 + 0.30 3.86
Far East 377.60 401.70 + 0.80 0.41
Global Income 27.17 28.90 + 0.01 4.40
High Income 113.10 120.40 + 0.40 3.61
International 202.70 215.60 + 0.10 0.62
Pref & Fxd Int 44.91 47.80 - 0.03 8.87
Recovery 74.45 79.20 - 0.06 1.84
Special Sits 102.60 109.10 + 0.10 1.48
Technology 337.00 358.60 - 2.20 ..
UK Blue Chip 65.81 70.04 + 0.22 2.81

PROSPERITY UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
1 Sessions Hse Sq, Maidstone ME14 1XX 0622 674 751
General 51.14 54.40 + 0.11 2.36
International 91.06 96.87 - 0.23 0.70
Gilt 26.02 27.75 + 0.01 6.88
Income & Gwth 71.57 76.14 + 0.16 3.47
European 46.71 49.69 + 0.37 1.29
American 54.27 57.73 - 0.41 0.05
Emerging Mkts 90.54 96.64 - 0.19 0.52
UK Smaller Cos 28.12 29.91 - 0.01 1.75
Gilt/Fixed Interest 27.39 29.35 + 0.13 5.13
Global PEP 38.87 41.35 + 0.07 1.77

PROVIDENCE CAPITOL FD MGRS LTD
2 Bartley Way, Hook, Hants RG27 9XA 0256 768 888
European Inc 212.90 227.40 - 1.40 0.82
Japan Inc 104.50 111.80 + 1.30 ...
Nth American Inc 111.70 120.20 - 0.90 0.12
Worldwide Inc 152.00 164.00 + 0.40 0.74
Hong Kong Inc 157.90 170.10 - 1.70 0.94
Swiss Equities Inc 61.20 65.58 + 0.41 0.35
Wwide Bond Inc 65.00 69.60 - 0.06 6.52
Emging Asia Inc 194.30 210.80 - 0.50 0.40
UK Money Mkt Inc 50.00 51.19 ... 5.1
Thailand Inc 179.80 191.80 + 2.00 0.01
Gold Trust Inc 82.10 88.02 + 0.00 0.19
New Zealand Inc 84.48 90.72 + 2.01 0.50
Tst Mngd PTP Inc 61.20 66.04 + 0.13 4.05
Latin Am Emp Inc 77.85 83.26 + 1.11 0.03
UK All Sh Mitr Inc 56.60 60.92 + 0.12 2.11
Le Fond Francais 68.43 73.52 - 0.01 0.38
Broker Unit Trusts
Global Trustees 75.59 80.85 - 0.09 1.57
Global Portfolio 68.45 72.90 + 0.10 ..
Global Opps 68.80 73.27 + 0.05 0.42
Marsh Global Gth 65.65 69.62 + 0.14 1.97
AAM Global Equity 59.74 63.55 + 0.15 0.73
CAM Brit Gwth Inc 84.32 91.41 + 0.01 0.96
CAM Brit Inc Inc 44.54 43.28 + 0.22 2.09
CAM Int Recvy Inc 46.21 50.03 - 0.30 1.03
Temple Equity Inc 45.03 49.13 - 0.16 3.27
Hanley Growth 73.15 77.62 + 0.08 1.35
Intl Growth Inc 78.60 83.71 ... 1.54
IPS Portfolio Inc 83.02 88.79 + 0.18 0.24
St Jms Mn Tnc Inc 52.50 55.41 + 0.07 ...
Premier Pertns Inc 69.25 74.06 + 0.29 0.35
Roxburgh Strat Gth 71.85 76.85 + 0.34 0.78
Tech Analysis 101.30 107.80 + 0.60 0.95
Rosebery Growth 47.60 50.10 ... ...
International Strat 73.21 78.30 + 0.50 ...
UFC Ind-Act Grth 53.30 57.00 + 0.17 ..
Coverdale Topout 51.06 54.80 + 0.24 ..
Prem Equity Inc 95.87 102.20 - 0.10 ..
Lowes Intl Growth 47.54 50.04 - 0.14 ...

PROVIDENT MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD
25-31 Moorgate, London EC2R 6BA 071 588 3903
Equity Gth 156.80 166.80 + 1.50 1.63
European Gth 89.00 94.19 + 0.91 0.59
Income & Gth 129.40 137.70 + 1.50 2.82
Japan Gth 119.30 126.30 + 1.30 ...
Nth Amer Gth 109.00 116.00 - 0.80 ...
Overseas Gth 83.93 89.26 + 0.04 ...

PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD
51-59 Ilford Hill, Ilford, Essex IG1 2DL
081 478 3377 Client Enq: 071 911 4490 Intermed dlg: 071 911 4314 Pricebank: 0426 925 091
Managed Tst 34.74 37.15 + 0.03 1.51
Cash Haven Inc 100.95 101.44 + 0.01 4.60
Cash Haven Acc 107.08 107.60 + 0.01 4.60
Global Growth 86.50 92.51 + 0.09 1.16
Equity Inc 84.10 89.94 + 0.28 3.67
Equity 695.40 743.74 + 1.17 2.43
European 197.58 211.31 - 1.58 0.83
High Income 91.84 98.22 + 1.21 3.70
Intl Grth 176.54 188.59 + 0.17 1.13
Intl Sm Co 75.85 81.12 - 0.03 0.61
Japanese 197.93 211.68 + 1.85 ...
Nth Amer 160.30 171.44 - 0.42 0.81
Pacific Mkts 101.82 108.90 - 0.66 0.86
Premier Inc 52.14 54.28 + 0.31 5.55
Sm Cos 84.45 90.32 - 0.16 2.06
Spec Sits 104.29 111.54 + 0.19 2.37
UK Growth 116.04 124.10 + 0.19 2.12

RELIANCE UNIT MGRS. LTD
Reliance House, Tunbridge Wells, Kent 0892 510 033
British Life 301.20 319.40 + 3.00 3.04
Reliance Inc 165.80 176.30 + 0.40 1.98

ROCK ASSET MGMT (UNIT TRUST) LTD
Bulman House, Regent Centre, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 3NG 091 285 2585
Managed 92.83 98.49 ... 2.01

ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT
St Swithin's Lane, London EC4 Dealers: 071 280 5000
FA America (Inc) 520.96 554.61 - 6.05 0.59
FA America (Acc) 607.08 646.29 - 7.05 0.59
FA UK Equity Inc 164.01 175.31 + 1.33 3.34
FA Japan 278.68 296.69 + 2.67 ...
FA Major UK Cos 97.87 104.48 + 0.62 2.12
FA Smllr UK Cos 278.45 302.22 - 0.51 1.06
FA European 281.57 298.29 + 2.49 0.77
FA Amer Smllr Cos 46.85 49.97 - 0.06 ...
FA Asia 53.29 57.21 - 0.68 ..
FA Jap Smllr Cos 47.31 50.00 ... ...
RAM Personal Pension
UK Major Cos 95.13 100.13 + 0.59 ..
UK Smllr Cos 78.59 82.72 - 0.14 ..
UK Income 94.23 99.18 + 0.74 ...
America 103.76 109.21 - 1.19 ..
Japanese 60.97 64.17 + 0.34 ...
European 89.24 93.93 - 0.78 ...
Gilt 88.36 93.00 + 0.60 ...
Deposit 78.52 82.65 ... ...
Managed 97.46 102.59 + 0.52 ...
RAM FSAVC Scheme
UK Major Cos 92.89 97.77 + 0.58 ...
UK Smaller Cos 77.00 81.05 - 0.13 ...
UK Income 92.20 97.04 + 0.71 ...
America 101.32 106.64 - 1.16 ...
Japanese 59.55 62.68 + 0.57 ...
European 87.16 91.74 - 0.77 ...
Gilt 87.37 91.96 + 0.52 ...
Deposit 75.18 79.13 ... ...
Managed 92.11 96.95 + 0.39 ...

ROYAL LIFE FD MGMT LTD
PO Box 34, Peterborough PE2 0UE
Prices: 0733 282 828 Gen Enq: 0733 390 000 Dealing: 0733 393 000
United States 70.11 74.91 - 0.65 0.11
Pacific Basin 81.32 87.24 + 0.26 0.07
High Inc Dist 126.10 134.80 + 0.60 4.50
Ryl Life Int Cmry 62.15 66.11 + 0.25 3.40
Ryl Life Intl Gwth 65.31 69.74 + 0.04 0.34
Ryl Life Intl Spec 58.66 62.39 - 0.15 ...
UK Emerging Cos 112.30 121.20 - 0.30 1.56
UK Index Trckg 157.40 167.70 + 0.80 3.14
European 110.70 119.01 + 0.90 0.30
Managed 137.40 147.70 + 0.50 0.87

ROYAL LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD
Royal Ldn Hse, Colchester CO1 1RA 0206 764 400
American Growth 147.30 155.90 + 0.70 0.26
European Growth 100.20 105.90 + 1.00 0.73
Far East Growth 133.80 142.40 + 0.30 0.36
Japan Growth 146.80 156.10 ... ...
Special Sits 185.40 197.20 + 0.90 1.36
UK Growth 71.92 76.51 + 0.24 1.87
Triton General 229.60 244.30 + 0.70 0.68

ST JAMES'S PLACE UT GROUP LTD
150 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5NS 041 307 6500
Far East Inc 175.70 185.90 - 2.10 0.09
Gtr Euro Prog Inc 305.20 323.00 + 2.00 0.21
Growth Inc 118.80 125.70 + 0.50 0.13
International Inc 308.90 326.90 + 1.00 ..
Nth Am & Intl Inc 315.40 333.80 - 2.70 0.47
PEP Prog Inc 201.50 213.20 - 0.10 1.50
UK High Inc Inc 134.80 142.60 + 0.60 3.22

SANWA INTL INVEST SERVICES LTD
City Place Hse, 55 Basinghall St EC2V 5DJ 071 330 0572
American Gwth 64.99 69.14 - 0.33 1.00
Amer Smllr Cos 78.91 83.95 - 0.29 ...
Asian Gwth 112.70 119.90 - 0.91 1.25
European Gwth 63.90 67.97 + 0.51 1.50
Global Bd 62.84 66.40 + 0.37 6.00
Global Eq 65.47 69.65 + 0.55 0.50
Japanese Eq 59.58 63.39 + 0.52 ...
Japan Sm Cos 71.95 76.54 + 0.83 ..
UK Gen 52.25 55.58 + 0.28 3.00
UK Gwth 56.27 59.86 + 0.20 2.90

SAVE & PROSPER GROUP
16-22 Western Rd, Romford RM1 3LB 0708 766 966
Amer Inc & Gwth 73.54 78.23 - 0.14 3.35
Amer Smllr Cos 108.60 115.50 - 1.30 ...
Asian Smaller Cos 58.08 61.79 + 0.08 ...
Capital Portfolio 124.10 132.00 + 1.30 1.82
Capital 158.50 168.60 + 1.20 1.02
Cash 120.80 120.80 ... 5.08
China Dragon 66.67 70.93 - 0.68 0.95
Commodity 119.60 127.10 - 0.30 0.60
Eastern Discovery 114.90 122.20 - 0.50 ...
Energy Inds 120.00 127.70 + 1.20 0.30
European Gwth 177.50 188.80 + 1.40 0.70
Euro Inc & Gwth 75.56 80.38 + 0.56 1.93
Euro Smllr Cos 47.54 50.57 + 0.18 0.86
Financial Secs 192.60 204.90 + 1.10 1.14
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc 53.46 56.45 + 0.23 7.52
Gold & Exploration 77.30 82.23 - 0.09 0.31
High Return 226.50 241.00 + 1.80 3.59
High Yield 219.90 233.90 + 2.50 3.74
Income 119.60 127.20 + 1.00 4.33
Intl Bond 177.90 187.90 + 0.60 5.06
ITU 200.80 213.60 + 1.30 0.85
Japan Growth 162.70 173.10 + 1.40 ...
Japan Smaller 191.40 203.60 + 0.60 ...
Korea 75.00 79.77 + 0.91 ..
Masterfund 52.65 56.01 + 0.28 0.81
Scotbits 293.00 311.70 + 1.90 0.91
Scotshares 278.00 295.70 + 3.00 1.79
Scotyields 237.80 253.00 + 2.50 3.73
Select Intl 142.50 151.60 + 0.50 0.55
Smaller Cos Inc 238.00 253.20 - 0.20 3.79
SE Asia 600.20 638.50 - 1.60 ...
Special Situation 116.80 124.30 + 0.90 0.62
UK Equity 240.20 255.50 + 2.50 2.74
UK Growth 62.65 66.65 + 0.59 1.51
UK Smllr Cos Gwth 43.17 45.93 - 0.02 1.16
US Growth 149.40 158.90 - 0.60 0.06
Univ Growth 143.80 153.00 + 0.70 0.35

SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD
Senator House, 85 Queen Victoria St EC4V 4EJ Client: 0800 526 535 Broker: 0800 526 540 General Enquiries: 071 382 3900
Retail Funds
American 250.32 266.25 - 1.22 0.52
Australian 146.16 155.90 - 0.78 1.26
European Gwth 68.37 72.82 + 0.19 0.95
Euro Smllr Cos 64.33 68.52 + 0.22 0.24
Far Eastern Gth 91.61 97.71 + 0.24 ..
Gilt & Fixed Int 56.74 59.80 + 0.14 7.05
Global Bond 56.00 57.85 + 0.15 5.21
Global Emer Mkts 52.28 55.76 - 0.33 ..
Income 343.39 366.28 + 0.93 3.74
Japan Smllr Cos 488.65 521.22 + 0.84 ..
Japan Enterprise 69.04 73.64 + 0.86 ..
Pacific Gwth 133.47 142.36 - 1.43 0.35
Seoul 53.33 56.96 + 0.97 ..
Smaller Cos 204.19 217.80 + 0.62 0.61
Tokyo 115.42 123.11 + 1.38 ...
UK Enterprise 230.01 245.40 + 0.15 2.10
UK Equity 230.18 245.52 + 0.78 2.54
US Smllr Cos 150.08 160.09 - 1.25 ..
World Fd 77.95 83.14 + 0.23 1.83
Institutional Funds
European 218.13 231.81 + 1.50 1.14
Euro Smllr Cos 26.43 28.11 + 0.09 1.67
Global Equity Inc 73.10 77.97 + 0.20 0.20
Japan Smllr Cos 36.28 38.59 + 0.14 0.06
Mngd Balanced 179.56 191.03 + 0.31 2.34
Overseas Equity 178.12 189.48 - 0.38 0.75
Oseas Smllr Cos 117.61 125.13 - 0.41 0.34
Pacific 252.22 268.31 - 2.68 0.92
Recovery 1781.7 1895.5 + 5.93 2.52
UK Index 147.58 157.00 + 0.72 3.01
UK Small Cos 110.18 117.21 - 0.06 2.55
US Smllr Cos 43.23 45.99 - 0.34 0.05

SCOTTISH AMICABLE UT MGRS LTD
150 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5NQ 041 204 2200
Equity Income 48.94 52.12 + 0.67 3.25
Equity Trust 57.14 60.85 + 0.37 2.85
Equity Strategy 65.72 69.99 + 0.46 0.60
European Opps 79.97 85.17 + 0.88 0.55
UK Smaller Cos 57.67 61.55 - 0.12 1.29
Maximum Income 95.02 101.57 + 0.01 5.45
Japanese 73.37 78.14 + 0.63 ..
Asia Pacific 127.79 136.10 - 2.12 1.40
American 107.89 114.90 - 1.17 0.26

SCOTTISH EQUITABLE FD MGRS LTD
28 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh 0800 454 422
Cash 29.66 29.66 ... 5.22
UK General Inc 51.16 54.57 + 0.26 2.54
Intl Income 266.40 286.00 - 0.60 2.91
European 70.21 74.31 + 1.03 1.14
Japan 68.27 72.71 + 0.43 0.13
American 67.91 72.14 - 0.46 1.55
Far East 91.16 96.17 - 0.73 0.27
Ethical Inc 29.21 31.25 + 0.06 2.03
UK Blue Chip Inc 32.56 34.53 + 0.17 2.41
High Inc Inc 35.81 38.22 + 0.24 3.71
UK Global Inc 38.43 40.93 + 0.19 1.52
Wwide Tact 73.05 78.12 + 0.11 0.68
Europe 2000 Tact 47.42 50.36 + 0.63 0.50
Technology 95.36 101.71 - 0.51 0.57

SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS
19 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh 031 225 2211
UK Equity 366.10 391.20 + 0.80 2.66
American 280.90 295.40 - 0.70 0.74
Pacific 393.90 421.30 - 1.20 0.54
European 509.10 544.50 + 2.90 0.90
Worldwide 90.76 97.07 - 0.39 0.75

SCOTTISH MUTUAL INV MGRS LTD
109 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5HN 041 248 6100
UK Equity Inc 267.30 284.40 + 1.90 2.41
UK Sir Co Eq Inc 189.00 201.10 - 0.30 1.51
Select Opptnty Inc 64.64 69.14 + 0.51 2.99
Income Plus Inc 70.77 75.29 + 0.41 3.53
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INFOTECH



Milkmen's hand-held computers should make bills reliable and allow for flexible orders from customers

Adding up the fastest milk bill in the west

Don't be surprised to see your milkman holding a computer, says **David Guest**

It started with milkmaids roaming the streets with buckets, crying "milko". Then the railway era revolutionised milk distribution and doorstep delivery became commonplace. Now computerisation is putting some of the fatty solids back into a business threatened with terminal skimming. Milkmen are going high-tech.

Benny Hill's chart-topping creation, Ernie, who drove the fastest milk cart in the west, is a reminder of how simple life used to be. That he belongs to a distant era is clear from the fact that he delivered only dairy products and that his land-speed, record-breaking float was drawn by a horse.

When horses drew milk carts, tables of logarithms were advanced technology. Now milkmen are carrying portable computers. These are intended to improve service, reliability and billing.

The competition is no longer other dairies, but shops and supermarkets. The shopping habits of a generation to whom the expression "milk bottle" is becoming meaningless are forcing dramatic changes on the descendants of Ernie.

There have been a number of attempts to computerise milk deliveries over the past ten years. Last month, at the National Dairymen's Association exhibition in Bournemouth, Southern Co-operative Dairies launched Roundmaster, which it says is the first system to allow milkmen to log orders and produce computerised bills on the spot. It has already sold the system to dairies in the Midlands and Lincolnshire.

After desktop computers, doorstep computers. James Boxall, general sales manager of Southern Co-operative Dairies, says: "What we wanted was to provide a professional receipting and invoicing that operates on the doorstep. Instead of his roundsbook, the milkman produces this piece of kit and it tells you what you've had, what it costs and presents you with the bill."

The dairy trade is keen to deflect the suggestion that the honesty of the milkman is at issue. It is not that people think they are being cheated by the traditional method of presenting weekly bills, according to the official line, more that an itemised bill lets them know where they are in one of the few transactions still paid in arrears.

John Simpson, a director of Grosvenor, the business development consultancy, says: "The real driver [behind computerisation] has been that the consumer's behaviour has changed. Rather than place a standard milk order, people are changing from day to day, but without itemised billing they are much less relaxed about altering their order.

"Case studies have shown that where you have itemised billing people are more prepared to adapt their orders and more willing to order other products. There is quite a strong correlation between itemised billing and sales results."

Dairies have come under pressure, especially in the past decade, from shops and supermarkets. Part of their response was to diversify. Milkmen now deliver a bewildering range of products, from grow-bags to groceries — Roundmaster has the capacity for 1,000 different product codes.

Improving reliability of service through computers is a second element of their bid to retain custom. Mr Simpson says that most milk rounds still produce manual bills based on the roundsbook. Computerisation is steadily spreading, he adds, in part at least because it aids the management of large operations.

"Computerisation tended to start with the smaller dairies because it was easier and less daunting to put it out in an operation with half a dozen milkmen," he says.

"Then, one or two of the medium-sized or regional operators took it on board. The bigger the dairy, the more critical the management systems become as opposed to the customer service aspect."

Southern Co-operative, based in Portsmouth, Hampshire, developed Roundmaster because it felt that none of the systems offered commercially did the job it wanted.

Mr Boxall says: "There are a number of data logging systems that work from a host computer sited at the dairy, but with them there is always a distance between the host and the customer on the doorstep."

Roundmaster has peripheral benefits, Mr Boxall says. "It gives us a lot more information about our customers. Also, in an industry which is labour intensive, our potential labour pool has been narrowed by the physical requirements of the job and the need to be mathematically pretty able.

"Roundmaster has 21 keys and it's as easy as a television remote control to operate. It hasn't caused any need for re-training, and it saves a lot of work, which has helped in its acceptance by our milkmen."

The system was designed with input from the people who would actually use it, and some of the details serve as a reminder of what an uncomfortable job delivering the milk can be.

Not only is the handheld device's screen back-lit for dark winter mornings but so is the keypad, which can be operated with a gloved hand. For the benefit of relief milkman, it gives geographical directions and instructions about where to leave the milk at certain addresses or how much to take into a block of flats. It is waterproof, shockproof and will operate at minus 20C.

"It could still be used if we needed to deliver the milk using a team of huskies," says Mr Boxall.

Take an Old Master home

The National Gallery has put its collection on multimedia CD-rom

Would you like the National Gallery in your home? What seems a delightfully impossibility is, however, another trick with computer technology.

On sale in the National Gallery's shop from tomorrow is not just page after page — 2,200 of them — of representations of the gallery's entire Old Master holdings; nor is it merely a guided tour.

The Microsoft Art Gallery is the National's Micro Gallery — an interactive computer information room in the Sainsbury Wing — transferred to a £50 CD-rom in a multimedia format that includes text, sound, animation, graphics and video.

The Micro Gallery room is a complete illustrated catalogue of probably the most comprehensive art collection in the world up to the modern era. It not only introduces the paintings and their creators, but analyses them, examines the pigments, perspectives and the artists' structures — one page shows how Poussin took a group of figures from his *Bacchanalian Revel* and reproduced it in reverse in *The Adoration of the Golden Calf* — and how and why the pictures are hung as they are in the galleries.

It was the first of its kind in the world. "We didn't know if people would want to look at the machines rather than go into the gallery, but it's been a huge success to the extent that the National Gallery in Washington is copying the system," Neil MacGregor, director of the London National Gallery, says. "Now the pictures are available to the public in the widest possible terms, a most exciting development."

And the CD-rom, too, is the first of its kind, an ordinary-looking disc which has on it 5,000 pages, more than 700 artists' biographies and a glossary of 500 terms, making over a million words, and 50 animated illustrations.

The original software was written by Cognitive Applications, which is based in Brighton. It adapted the system for the new manifestation, which is released in formats for both the Apple Macintosh and the PCs using Windows.

The pigments in the displays are not yet up to colour transparency standard, but getting very close, and you can cruise through the collections in an almost infinite number of directions — no one has bothered to work out how long it would take to get through the whole thing. The scholarship, of course, belongs to the National Gallery creators and is pretty much unassailable.

Bill Gates, the founder of Microsoft, apparently thought up the project himself. For some time, it seems, he has been buying up the electronic copyrights on paintings around the world for his own interest.

This publication is the latest in a Microsoft multimedia series which includes a flight simulator, titles about dinosaurs, Mozart and Stravinsky.

Who approached whom about the art gallery idea is hazy, but Mr Gates has acquired the electronic rights to the National Gallery's collection of this publication for ten years only, in a simple, painless royalties carve-up.

The National's shop will carry 50 copies to start with, but Microsoft intends to sell it through retail outlets in America and Britain. "This is a fascinating computer coffee table book, not a library tome," Gillian Kent, Microsoft's product manager for consumer business, says.

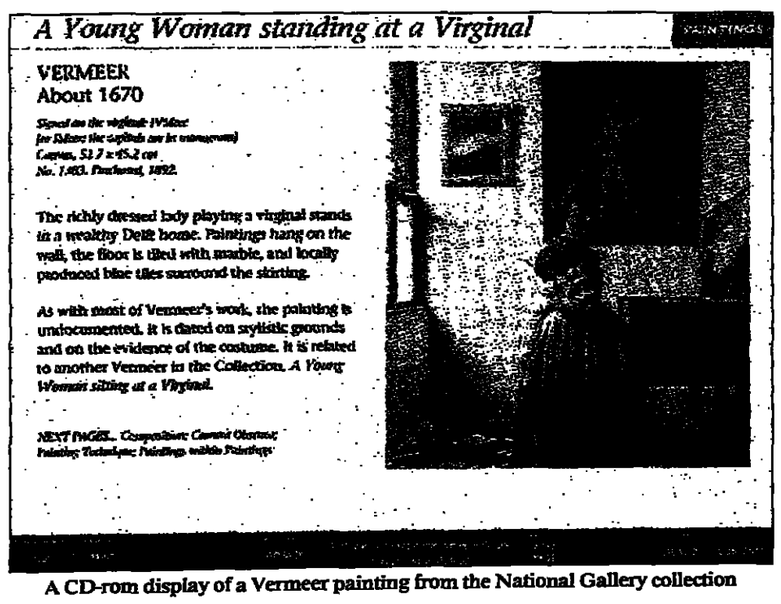
Microsoft is approaching collections in the United States now, but none of them have done the essential work the National had done with its Micro Gallery.

The eventual dream, shared by Mr Gates as well as many gallery directors and art academics, is of a world-wide database which can be linked to home-based systems to give access to information on millions of works of art around the world.

With many galleries still jealous of their collections and scholarship, the problem will be one of cultural politics, not technology.

SIMON TAIT

● *Infotech CD-rom, pages 34-35*



A CD-rom display of a Vermeer painting from the National Gallery collection

Calls to cost less

SUBSCRIBERS and new operators will have to help cover the costs of basic telecommunications services in the EC as greater liberalisation leads to lower long-distance charges, says the European Commission.

The EC is moving towards tying telecommunications charges to actual costs involved as part of its drive to break down all national monopolies over telecommunications services by 1998. However, that will bring down international charges which often subsidise unprofitable local services.

Graphic end

DAN LUNGREN, the Californian Attorney-General, has asked manufacturers and retailers to voluntarily stop selling computer games that contain graphic, gratuitous violence.

Mortal Kombat and *Night Trap* are examples of two popular video games that should be withdrawn, he said. Mr Lungren said about two-thirds of the video games are sold to children under 15, and that the games require players' involvement in violence.

Standing down

COCOM, the Cold War-era organisation which controlled the sale of dangerous technology to communist countries, is to be dissolved by next April.

The Co-ordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls, which comprises western countries and Japan, barred exports of "dual use" — military and civilian — technology to communist states for almost 45 years.

Cocom delegates will reconvene in The Hague in January to discuss its replacement that will maintain controls on export of strategic equipment to countries that could "constitute a danger for world peace or in the domain of terrorism".



£275m contract

EUROPE'S largest electrical engineering group, Siemens, has won a £275 million contract to build a subway system in Guangzhou, China, but its troubled computer unit will shed 5,100 jobs by October next year. Analysts said the subway deal would boost Siemens' chances of winning large railway contracts elsewhere.

I spy pictures

THE CIA is ending its blanket opposition to commercial sales of spy-quality satellite pictures.

This may open a $1 billion market in the next few years. The CIA will offer conditional support for the use of "remote-sensing" systems capable of picking out objects as small as cars from 400 miles in space and for the collection and sale of imagery sharp enough to distinguish ground objects as small as 3ft in diameter.

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POSITIVE ABOUT DISABLED PEOPLE

Business users are finally waking up to the potential of sound, graphics and moving video on computers. **David Hewson** reports

A pack with a powerful punch

The computer industry faces a perpetual dilemma. Should it be driven by the needs and aspirations of the customers it serves, or should it enjoy the excitement of the fast-evolving technologies it produces first, and find a use for them later?

PC warehouses are littered with clever widgets and gizmos that, after much hype, have proved to have little practical application in the real world. Multimedia was just such an idea but, remarkably, it has risen from the grave to become the apple of the discerning computer user's eye.

PC industry pundits invented the term multimedia in the late 1980s, when the vision of high-quality sound, graphics and even moving video on ordinary desktop PCs started to become a reality.

A new storage medium was required to make this possible, since sound and pictures take up much more disc space than the digital data which is the PC's natural lingua franca.

Enter the CD-rom, an audio compact disc translated into the computer environment, capable of holding up to 680 megabyte of data, sound and pictures — more than 30 times the capacity of the average hard disc of the time.

The pundits had a clear idea of what users would do with this new technology. It was to be a new business tool, enabling companies to compile animated presentations, complete with music and video.

Businesses in their droves looked at multimedia — but kept their wallets in their pockets. Yet this Christmas a CD-rom drive will be the mark of distinction on the computers lined up to appeal to the burgeoning home and small business markets.

Multimedia was rescued from oblivion by the people least expected to want it: personal users attracted by the promise of more colour, sound and enjoyment from their machines.

CD titles with moving video footage let users fly with the Space Shuttle, go deep sea diving around a coral reef in *Oceans Below*, crack crimes in a series of Sherlock Holmes adventures or have a potentially fatal encounter with Dracula. But the quality of CD titles varies from the stunning to the ridiculous and to enjoy the most adventurous of titles you need a high-performance PC which may be beyond the budget of many home users.

Apple, one of the pioneers of CD, predicts that its own worldwide base of CD users will rise to 4.5 million by the end of this year. In 1991, the company sold a mere 7,000 drives.

There is every indication that previously reluctant business customers are starting to follow where personal users have taken the lead — an unexpected reversal of the normal development path in the PC market place. The more common that CD-rom drives become, the greater the chance for the medium to become a new electronic publishing format in its own right.

Games companies are producing an enormous range of titles, from interactive films to highly sophisticated chess packages. Home education is also an area that is seeing fast growth. Microsoft has set up a CD-rom publishing division, with titles ranging from a general encyclopaedia to works covering the instruments of the world and the paintings of the National Gallery.

Conventional publishing houses are also looking at the medium as an electronic future to complement, paper-based products. Hutchinson, Compton's and the American Grolier company have all adapted their paper encyclopaedias for the new medium, and more will follow.

The excellent sound facilities available have been used as the basis for a number of language teaching titles. In schools, CD-rom is increasingly seen as an essential classroom aid. Electronic reference books, ranging from *The Oxford English Dictionary* to cuttings files of national newspapers, have been popular for some time. CD-rom is also becoming a teaching tool in itself, with dedicated National Curriculum courses from a number of specialist publishers, some of them in partnership with the National Council for Educational Technology.

Niche business users are beginning to emerge. Several of the large company information databases are available on CD subscription. Newer titles have a "pay-as-you-go" arrangement, charging only for the information accessed.

Photo-CD technology developed by Kodak is making the medium a new, cheap and secure solution for the storage and communication of high-quality colour photographic images for advertising agencies, publishers and other companies producing desktop material.

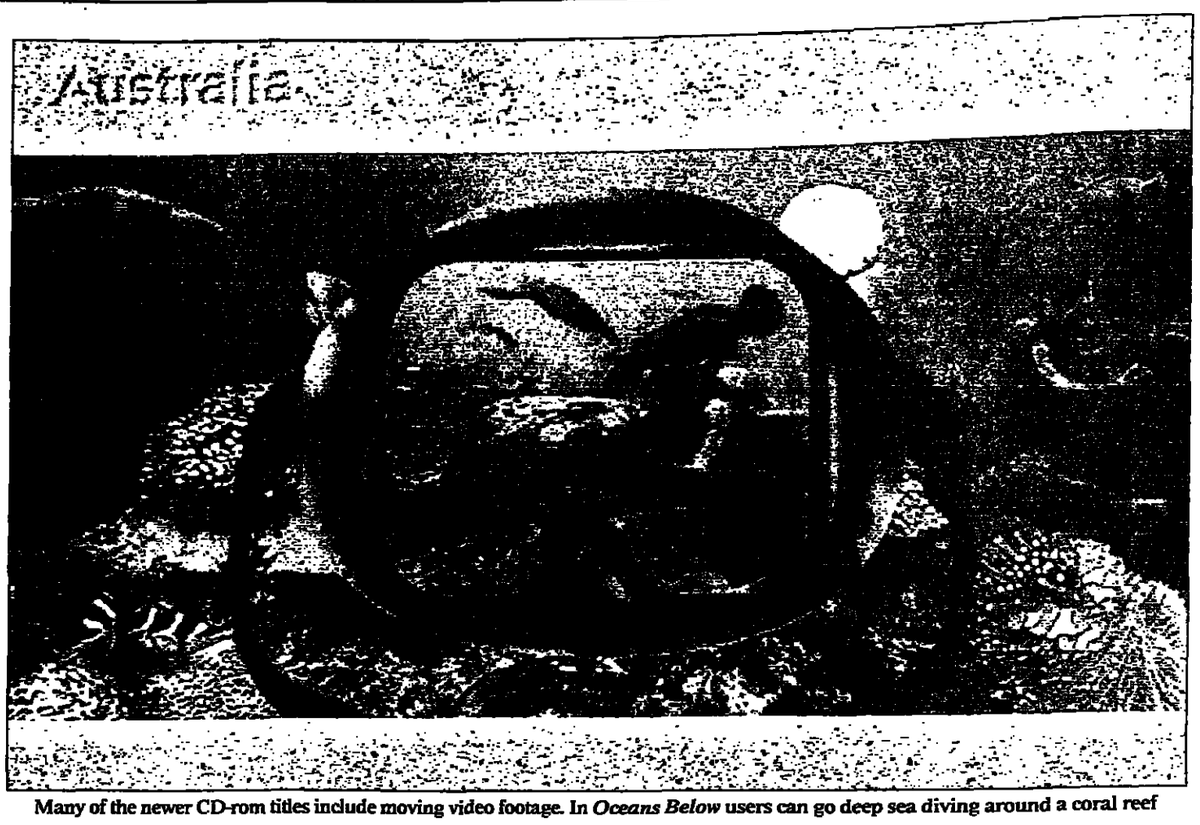
Most business users have yet to see CD-rom as a mainstream PC tool, but software developments over the next year will probably change their minds. Publishers find it much cheaper to release software on CD-rom and are starting to pass on their savings.

For software support, companies can turn to a range of subscription CD-roms covering technical issues and key through a database of relevant articles from a wide variety of international magazines for product reviews and updates.

Continuing arguments about standards and compatibility are inevitable but over the past year CD-rom technology has made safe its claim to be the storage and distribution medium of the future.

One day businesses may even play with it for multimedia presentations, the way the pundits said we should all those years ago.

● *An exhibition and conference on multimedia, CD-rom and electronic publishing will take place at Olympia 2, London from December 7-9. Further information from 0865 730275*



Many of the newer CD-rom titles include moving video footage. In *Oceans Below* users can go deep sea diving around a coral reef

THE TIMES IS AVAILABLE ON CD-ROM

Read all about it on the library computer

The arrival of CD-rom gives newspapers a unique opportunity to open up their libraries to a wider readership. News International, owner of *The Times*, has been a pioneer in developing CD-rom-based electronics library services for general sale.

The latest title, *Changing Times*, combines reports and archive photographs and artwork covering 200 years of the paper from 1785 to 1985. Readers can browse through original reports of historic events such as the Charge of the Light Brigade and the Battle of Waterloo, as well as reading up on more recent history.

The new title is designed to cover 12 key school curriculum topics, including the French Revolution, the rise of America, the British Empire and the second world war.

Nearly 15,000 original reports and more than 1,000 photographs, illustrations and etchings are contained on a single disc, all easily accessed according to subject matter, and backed by classroom support material.

The stories and artwork can be extracted for use in pupil's work and class hand-outs. The disc, which is available for PCs, Apple Macintosh and Acorn Archimedes computers, costs £125 excluding VAT.

The Times and *The Sunday Times* are also available together on compact disc editions which are published quarterly. Prices range from £199 for a single edition to £395 for a four-disc annual subscription, with 50 per cent discounts for educational users.

The discs contain most of the text from both newspapers during the period of coverage — some externally copyrighted articles are excluded — and a selection of captioned photographs and illustrations to accompany a range of articles.

● *Further information from News Multimedia, PO Box 481, Virginia Street, London E1 9BD (071-782 3982, fax 071-782 3987).*

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Russell Cole says that buyers have to do their homework

Baffled by science

On paper, it looks a simple task. To turn an ordinary personal computer into a multimedia machine, you need to add a CD-rom drive, sound facilities and enough speed and memory to handle all the extra audio and graphics that this colourful and noisy new world of computing entails.

In reality, a welter of different standards and incompatibilities can make upgrading to a CD-rom difficult, even if you buy a multimedia machine from scratch, *writes David Hewson.*

The simplest route into CD-rom is to buy an Apple Macintosh. Apple has been a multimedia pioneer for several years and is now selling its own high-performance CD-rom drive at near to cost price to build market share.

The Macintosh is also unique in that sound and the right connection facilities for external devices, such as a CD-rom drive, are built into most machines in the range.

But many users still want to use CD-rom with a conventional IBM-compatible PC, preferably with the ubiquitous Windows, and it is here that the problems can begin.

A CD-rom drive must have some form of driver card installed into the PC, and for most operations a sound card too, although these can sometimes be combined. Installing a card can be relatively simple — you need to open up the computer, find an empty slot and gently ease the device into the right place.

The installation of a CD-rom system can be fraught with difficulties

A number of highly technical incompatibilities can occur when cards are installed in PCs. Access to a customer support hotline is essential.

Most new CD applications demand that they be run on "MPC 2" standard PCs. In short, this means a 486 machine, with at least four megabytes of RAM, preferably more speakers, a sound card, and, crucially, a CD-rom drive capable of high speed data transfers.

Memory and the speed at which a drive operates are the two factors which most determine whether a multimedia system will be acceptable, or so slow that it is impossible to use. Early CD-rom drives ran at the same speed as normal audio compact disc machines, severely restricting the flow of data from the drive to the PC.

Many of these "single speed" drives are now being dumped on the market at very low prices. If all you need is a drive to access text data, they *may* be acceptable. If you want to be in the mainstream of CD-rom titles, with moving graphics and good sound, they are virtually useless.

Earlier this month, NEC pulled out of single speed drives altogether and announced a new family of high speed machines.

According to Russell Cole, NEC's CD-rom product manager: "For most people, a single speed drive is no good at all. A lot of British assemblers are using them to bring down the price of a PC bundled with a drive, but consumers should look beyond price when they are thinking of buying a multimedia machine.

"We think that a double speed drive is the very minimum that is useful today, and higher speeds will become the norm."

Prices have also started to fall. The company's latest double speed drive costs £199, excluding VAT, half the price of a similar machine less than a year ago.

Anyone who wants to dabble in today's products needs to shop carefully, whether they are upgrading an existing PC or buying a new multimedia machine.

Almost overnight, the games industry has had to grow up

Staying in to play on video

The games being served up on a silver platter for today's personal computers can offer new, often astonishing entertainment options.

The enormous data capacity of the CD-rom has allowed compact-disc digital sound and moving video to be integrated with traditional computer game-play. The buzz words are "interactive multimedia". Space Invaders has become ET — and it is up to you to phone home.

Almost overnight, the video games industry has been forced out of its nappies and into short trousers.

Virgin Games set the first benchmark for the CD-rom leisure market with the release of the haunted house mystery *The 7th Guest*, in which digitised actors wandered around a computer-generated, photo-realistic mansion avoiding spooks and solving puzzles. Two months after its American launch, 150,000 copies had been sold.

Unfortunately, *The 7th Guest* also highlighted the complications of using infant CD-rom technology for cutting-edge home entertainment. It requires very powerful PC hardware to work properly and some slower CD-rom drives lead to picture break up.

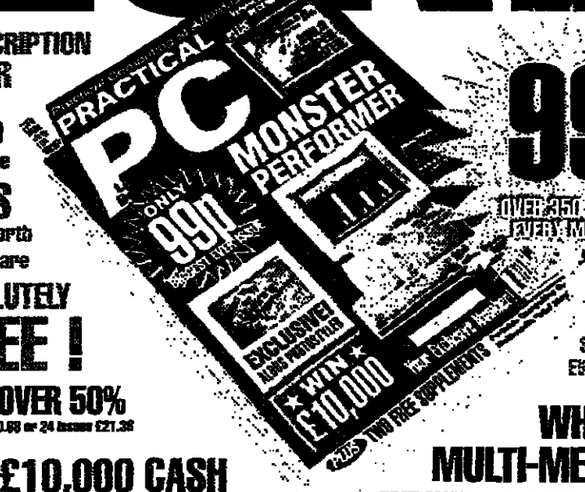
The crossover between films and interactive gaming is also becoming more overt. Sylvester Stallone and Wesley Snipes have both shot additional footage on the set of their science fiction film *Demolition Man* for inclusion in a spin-off CD-rom yarn for Virgin Games.

Of course, the reality of this new generation of gaming experience creates its own complications. The CD-rom *Dracula Unleashed* has been given a 15 certificate by the British Board of Film Classification.

Dubbed an "interactive horror film", the £50 game contains more than 90 minutes of sharp-fanged video footage deemed too strong for a young audience. Similar classifications await other such titles.

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Learning comes to life in the classroom

Students and teachers now have a wealth of pictures, sound and text at their fingertips. **George Cole** *reports*

Students in thousands of schools around Britain are using CD-rom players and discs in libraries, classrooms and study centres. In many ways, CD-roms are made for education.

The ability to store vast amounts of information on tiny discs make them an ideal learning tool. Special search software enables pupils to find information quickly and easily, while multimedia versions — which store a mix of sound, pictures, text and graphics — can bring information to life in a way no book can.

But for a long time, the education market suffered from a classic chicken-and-egg situation. The high price of CD-rom players and discs meant that few schools could afford them, and so most companies concentrated on more lucrative markets, such as the business sector.

In January 1991, the Department for Education (DFE) announced a £500,000 pilot project to put CD-rom players and discs into schools in England and Northern Ireland. More than 500 secondary, 30 primary and seven special schools took part in the project, which was managed by the National Council for Educational Technology.

The council's report noted that CD-roms have a high educational potential and, as a result, the DFE is now providing £8 million in support grants to put CD-roms into schools. The aim is for every secondary school in England to have at least one CD-rom player and four discs by the end of the year.

This funding has encouraged many companies to enter the educational market, sparking a dramatic fall in CD-rom hardware prices — some players cost less than £250 — while many more educational titles are becoming available.

Reference titles have proved to be particularly popular in schools, because they can be an excellent source of information. "You can greatly improve the quality of information in a school library by simply providing it on CD-rom discs," says Dr Angela McFarlane, project director of the Information Technology Unit at Homerton College, Cambridge. "And a CD-rom drive on a network system can be shared by a number of students — this isn't so easy with a textbook."

Some CD-roms store a year's supply of newspapers. Other reference titles include *The Oxford English Dictionary* and *The Complete Works of Shakespeare*.

Hertfordshire education authority has invested heavily in CD-rom technology and every school library has at least one machine. "The trend is for teachers to bring groups of students into the library to work together on a CD-rom title," says Shirley Matthews, information technology manager at Hertfordshire's school library service. She emphasises that CD-rom complements rather than replaces traditional library resources.

Pupils at Roseland Primary School in Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire, use CD-roms for topic work. "The children have few problems with the technology", explains Jane Carson, Roseland's head-designate, "and CD-roms are a wonderful way of showing children information. They can explore things at their own pace and the combination of sound and pictures adds lots of interest."

The next logical step will be for schools to produce their own CD-roms. Some teachers are already transfering photographic images on to Kodak's Photo-CD discs and using them for "electronic" slide shows. In the future, students and teachers will be able to mix sound, text, video and graphics on desktop computers and put the resulting program on to a CD-rom.

The growing reference and educational market has resulted in a number of joint ventures between traditional book publishers and computer companies. The American software giant Microsoft has a 20 per cent share in Dorling Kindersley — the partnership has produced CD-roms on musical instruments and dinosaurs.

HarperCollins and Nimbus Information Systems have produced a series of CD-roms featuring the works of Jane Austen, Lewis Carroll and the Brontë sisters.

Television companies such as Anglia and Yorkshire have also entered the educational CD-rom market.

Some discs now cost less than £50 and the falling price of desktop computers has caused many companies to set their sights on the home education market.

But Dr McFarlane counsels caution to anyone thinking about selecting CD-rom titles. "It is difficult to evaluate the quality of a CD-rom. You can't flick through the pages and see how many pictures there are or how comprehensive the index is. It takes time to get the feel of a disc."

She also warns about the lure of multimedia CD-roms. "It is very easy to think that a CD-rom with video clips is better than one without. But the quality and relevance of some video material is highly questionable."



PETER TREVNOR

Jane Carson, head-designate, with pupils at Roseland Primary School who use CD-roms for their topic work



When small is beautiful, and secure

CD-rom is seen as an excellent method of bulk data storage

One of the inescapable trends in software is bulk, so CD-rom is seen by the software houses as heavensent.

Nowadays, even computer games are so big they come on two or three floppy discs. The new Windows NT operating system comes on no fewer than 2 discs. A format that can carry practically any program that can be loaded onto a personal computer is therefore desperately needed.

Last month, Apple launched a CD-rom-based software publishing operation in America. Subscribers get a CD-rom disc containing a catalogue of software titles that they can access and try out, but which cannot be transferred to hard disc or used to print out documents.

If users decide to buy a particular program, they can ring Apple and tell the sales person which title they want to buy. The sales person then gives the buyer a code number for each title, giving access to the disc to allow transfer to a PC hard disc and to unlock all the features of the system.

The capacity of the CD-rom is so great that multimedia training programs can also be included on a disc, possibly including video clips or animations.

Acorn Computer, based in Cambridge, is best known for its educational software and has been selling CD-rom systems in that market for some time. Now CD-rom is being pushed for business applications because of its capacity for storing graphics. Stewart Palmer, the multimedia marketing manager, says.

"We see two sorts of software that will be distributed on CD-rom," he says. "One is software that operates on a hard disc but uses large quantities of graphics, such as large numbers of clip art files for graphic artists, which use huge amounts of storage.

"Another is large applications intended to run from the CD-rom, such as computer encyclopaedias with large amounts of video or audio."

Enthusiasts for software distribution by CD-rom, point out that it makes software piracy much more difficult than with a floppy disc.

CD-roms need much more investment to make, and encryption systems coming on to the market are making the illegal extraction of valuable data much more difficult.

John Sharman is marketing director of C-Dilla which produces the CD-Secure encryption system. He says that it will frustrate any software pirates not equipped with supercomputers. CD-Secure encrypts the information on the disc, so that it can be decoded only with a unique unlock program.

With software containing valuable information, such as financial reports, it would still be possible to read the entire disc and retain the information. But CD-Secure makes this impractical by limiting the speed at which information can be accessed.

For example, Mr Sharman says, the system can limit the user to only being able to display a new screen, say, every 20 seconds. At that rate, it would take more than a year to read an entire CD, Mr Sharman says, by which time most of the information will be obsolete.

> Piracy could be made much more difficult

Potential customers are interested in distributing "catalogue" software, with discs that contain all their software offerings. Users will have to ring the supplier to order the programs they want and get an unlock code over the telephone to access it.

Microsoft has not yet decided to commit itself fully to the CD-rom route, even though large customers are already being supplied with software on CD-rom which they can then copy as required.

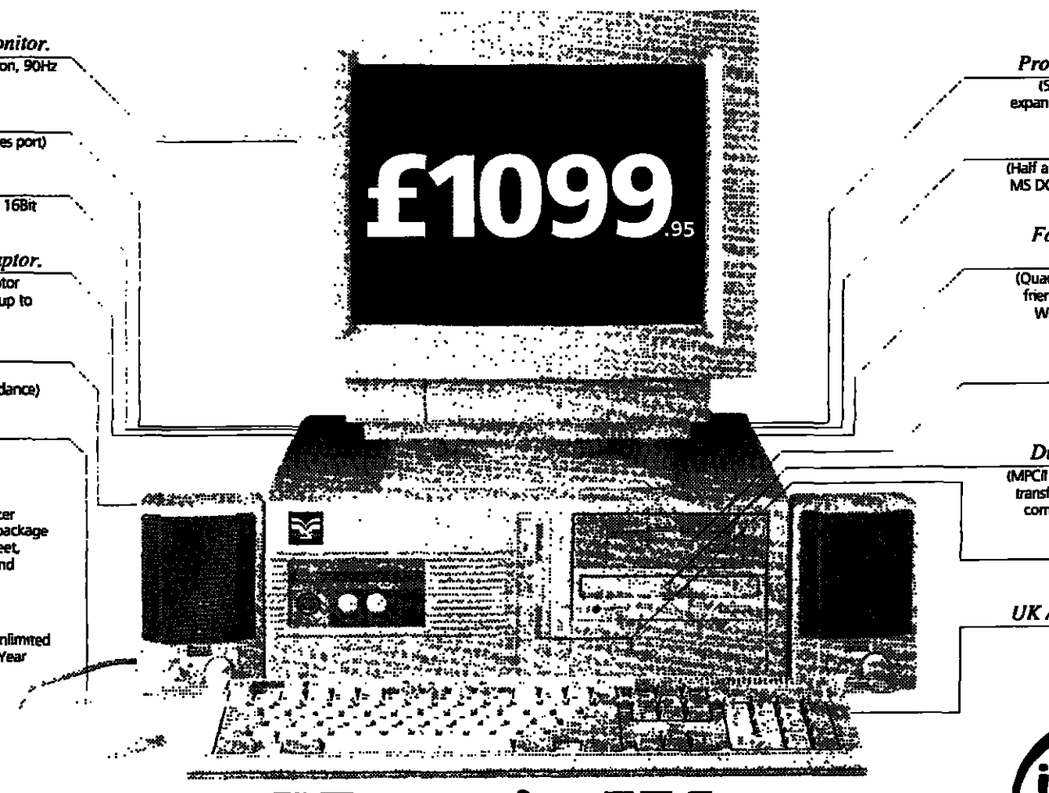
Unlike Apple or IBM — which are also using CD-roms extensively — Microsoft has no control over the hardware in which its products are used.

"This poses problems in billing," Mr Smith says. "If we send out all our software on a CD-rom disc, with the customer chosing which to unlock, what do we bill the dealer for — all the software, or wait until the customer buys it?" David Smith, Microsoft's UK marketing manager, says.

"Software is fundamentally not a tangible thing, so you could distribute it through the telephone wire direct to customers' networks, or even across the sky by microwave."

CHRIS PARTRIDGE

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FOUNTAIN highmead

Australia is no longer the land of milk and honey, but there are still opportunities for a few in the Antipodes. **David Guest** reports

Expatriate jobs go down under

At this time of year, as anticyclonic gloom settles over the country, the thoughts of many an information technology (IT) specialist are liable to turn to the Antipodes.

Contracts in Australia used to be an attractive way of seeing the world, making good money and avoiding the English winter. But the recession down under has taken its toll in the workplace and opportunities are harder to come by than three or four years ago.

Some companies that specialised in placing British IT experts in jobs in Australia have dropped out of this corner of the job market for lack of business while others retain it as a nominal speciality but have branched out geographically.

The shortage of certain technical skills applies as much in Australia as anywhere else, but companies are now more likely to look at home for recruits. Chad Stolper, the director of Prescot Computers (Recruitment), says: "There is also the hassle of getting people into the country. If they've got the skills, and if they are readily available, and if they have visas, they will be able to find jobs. But there are problems in getting people in even temporarily." Administrative delays can last several months and charges can be high.

A British software specialist working in Victoria says: "The job market is depressed. Where there are no merit rises or performance-related pay schemes, people choose not to make a song and dance about it because they are afraid of redundancy. For a Brit over here, the most difficult thing is seen as getting a job if you go home.

"Some of the people on the team want to stay on for that reason, and these are people with 10-15 years' experience and relevant skills. There are no big projects any more. A lot of companies re-wrote their systems in the eighties and now it's more a question of how long they can keep them going, or just upgrade one part at a time."

Those foreign contractors that do succeed in finding work in Australia can expect to find themselves working alongside freelance staff from other countries. Where these temporary colleagues are American, there is likely to be an unfavourable disparity in pay. There is, however, possible consolation in the likelihood that a cost-conscious employer will tend to retrench the more expensive contractors first.

For holders of residence qualifications, by marriage or by persistence, the indigenous contract market is depressed and the focus of work in the main cities is more pronounced than ever.

But in many respects Australia remains an attractive destination. "There are similarities in the working environment between the UK and Australia, right down to the office furniture, but what makes the difference is when you leave work," another expatriate programmer says. Most of the big systems IT work in Australia is in Sydney and Melbourne; both are cities with ocean beaches, bush and mountains within easy reach. The quality of life cannot be measured in raw statistics, expatriates say.

"Everything is in kilometres and kilograms and dollars. When we first went, we were trying to convert everything back to judge its value but eventually you realise that the relevant point of reference is how much money you've got in your pocket", said one contractor with 18 months' experience in Australia.

Rented accommodation is cheaper than in Britain and is available in greater variety. A four-bedroomed house in an acre of land, with a swimming pool and a full range of domestic electrical appliances, 40-minute's commuting distance from the centre of Melbourne costs between £90 and £150 a week.

Public transport is cheaper in Sydney and Melbourne than in London, but away from the city centres a car is essential. Cars cost about as much as in the UK but petrol is cheaper. Food, drink and tobacco are also less expensive. Clothes and shoes are more expensive and are less well made in the main.

Terms and conditions at work vary. Qualified IT staff with skills in demand might command the equivalent of £1,000 a week. Some of this may be used to buy insurance policies against ill health, loss of earnings or loss of job.

Many also top up their annual holiday entitlement with sick leave. The first two weeks of a period of sick leave are self-certified, which is to say that employers will take their stricken employee's word for it. Thereafter, up to a further period of five weeks, a doctor's confirmation is needed. Most employers observe national bank holidays only — state holidays are widely regarded as being for other people.

Mr Stolper believes that Australia and New Zealand went into recession before Britain and the rest of Europe and he hopes that they may emerge from it first. For the moment, however, his suggestion is: "Try America."



Although jobs have become scarce, Australia still has a reputation for offering a good quality of life

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OPERA page 38
Mathew Prichard steers Wales towards its new opera house for the turn of the century

ARTS

ROCK page 39
Has the "World Gone Wrong"? It certainly has for the creative genius of Bob Dylan



Portraits enjoy a facelift

The National Portrait Gallery's postwar holdings at last have a smart new setting. **Richard Cork** reports

Ask most artists about making a portrait today, and you will quickly find them shying away from the whole notion. Few would want to devote their careers to producing likenesses on commission. However lucrative full-time portraiture can be for those in demand, it is regarded with instinctive suspicion by those outside the profession. The idea of supplying effigies to satisfy a client's self-esteem smacks of flattery. No wonder our finest figurative painters, from Lucian Freud to Frank Auerbach, insist on choosing their own sitters and never accept commissions.

In such a sceptical climate, how can the National Portrait Gallery ensure that its contemporary acquisitions are worth looking at? Writing in 1966, John Berger concluded that "it seems to me unlikely that any important portraits will ever be painted again". But the NPG, which became the first purpose-built portrait gallery in the world when its main building opened in 1896, is still committed to obtaining the best available images of famous British men and women. Additions are constantly being made to a collection numbering over 9,000 works, and for years the burgeoning 20th-century holdings have been crammed into chronically overcrowded premises.

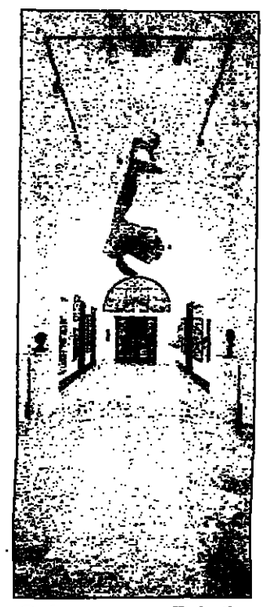
With the opening today of new galleries devoted to post-1945 portraits, as well as a pristine exhibition area and education centre, the NPG's space crisis has been solved. Together with the welcoming Heinz Archive and Library across the road in Orange Street, topped by a well-lit conservation studio, these extra facilities transform the gallery.

The £12 million development appeal, amounting to a considerable triumph for the outgoing director John Hayes, has resulted in a handsome refurbishment of the original building's ground floor. The architects, John Miller and Partners, have turned the ample corridor running down the central axis into a cool and airy nave. White walls and French grey marble floors provide a lucid backdrop for the works on display. Order prevails, enabling us to look at even the most familiar likeness as if for the very first time.

But does this catholic array of paintings, sculpture, graphic works and photographs measure up to the highest standards found elsewhere in the building? How well do the post-1945 images compare with the outstanding portraits produced by Holbein, Van Dyck, Hogarth, Gainsborough and Reynolds? The answer, I am afraid, confirms that we are not basking in a golden age of British portraiture.

Dangling from a central point in the corridor, where it widens into transepts on either side, Andrew Logan's mixed media sculpture of Lynn Seymour offends the eye. This ungainly figure does not deserve such a prominent location, and too many of the portraits hung below likewise fail to convince as works of art.

Among the disappointments, self-portraits by painters and sculptors often redeem the display. Ben Nicholson's mysterious, dream-like double portrait of himself and Barbara Hepworth, executed in 1933 when their relationship was at its closest, is far more potent than its modest size might suggest. Hepworth's later self-portrait, with mesmeric eyes focussed on the uncarved block of stone, is equally forceful. Even Graham Sutherland, whose portraits were



Order now prevails in the NPG's newly refurbished Later 20th-Century rooms

so uneven in quality, conveys in a late painting of himself at work something of the intensity which marks his early Welsh landscapes.

Sutherland, after discovering that his candid portrait of the aged Churchill had been destroyed by the sitter's wife, once declared that "to 'portray' (used in the best sense) has become synonymous with 'betray' ". But there is little in this display to indicate that sitters might have been disconcerted by their likenesses. Ruskin Spear catches some of Harold Wilson's cunning evasiveness by half-obscuring his subject with pipe-smoke. But Bryan Organ's head-and-shoulders of Harold Macmillan is respectful to the point of tedium, and Dirk Bogarde seems about to nod off in David Tindle's soporific tempera painting.

Caricaturists do their best to inject some bite and dynamism, with Gerald Scarfe's bloated, balloon-shaped Nigel Lawson "fighting inflation" behind his repellent flab. And photographers as alert as Bill Brandt often outshine the painters hung nearby. His study of Francis Bacon's pummelled face, bleary in the half-light on Primrose Hill, has a profundity unmatched elsewhere.

The aesthetic temperature rises in the temporary exhibition gallery, where marble floors give way to white American oak. Robin Gibson's survey of *The Portrait Now* is free to roam beyond these shores, and he stage-manages an early coup by juxtaposing Nam June Paik's video portrait of Joseph Beuys with Warhol's strangely disembodied image of the same subject. If Warhol stresses the ethereal side of Beuys's complex personality, Paik celebrates his charismatic showmanship. The assembled video screens build into a marionette-like figure crowned by Beuys's ubiquitous felt hat. And the frenetic images on each monitor show him with a microphone, acting the part of the artist as irrepressible performer.

Gibson tries to be as comprehensive as possible, finding room for the insufferable narcissism of Jeff Koons's marble bust as well as the ferocity of A.R. Penck's stabbing self-portrait. David Hockney, whose etching of himself paying homage to Picasso is a high point in the permanent collection, here becomes the focus of several portraits by other artists. Peter Blake's Courbet-like *The Meeting* dramatises an encounter between Howard Hodgkin, Blake and the T-shirted Hockney in California, attended by an informal chorus of tanned young roller-booters. But Kitaj's boisterously affectionate *The Neo-Cubist* allows Hockney to face us, smiling as his half-naked body is seen from an eye-twisting multitude of vantages.

Kitaj's vivacity compares well with Dmitri Zhilinski's stilted double portrait of the mega-collectors Irene and Peter Ludwig. Becalmed on a sofa with a few choice possessions displayed behind, they seem utterly unreal. In Alex Colville's *Couple on Bridge*, by contrast, the artist strives for painful honesty in portraying his own marriage. While Colville turns to his wife and appears to argue with her, she ignores him and stares out bleakly over the limpid Canadian riverscape.

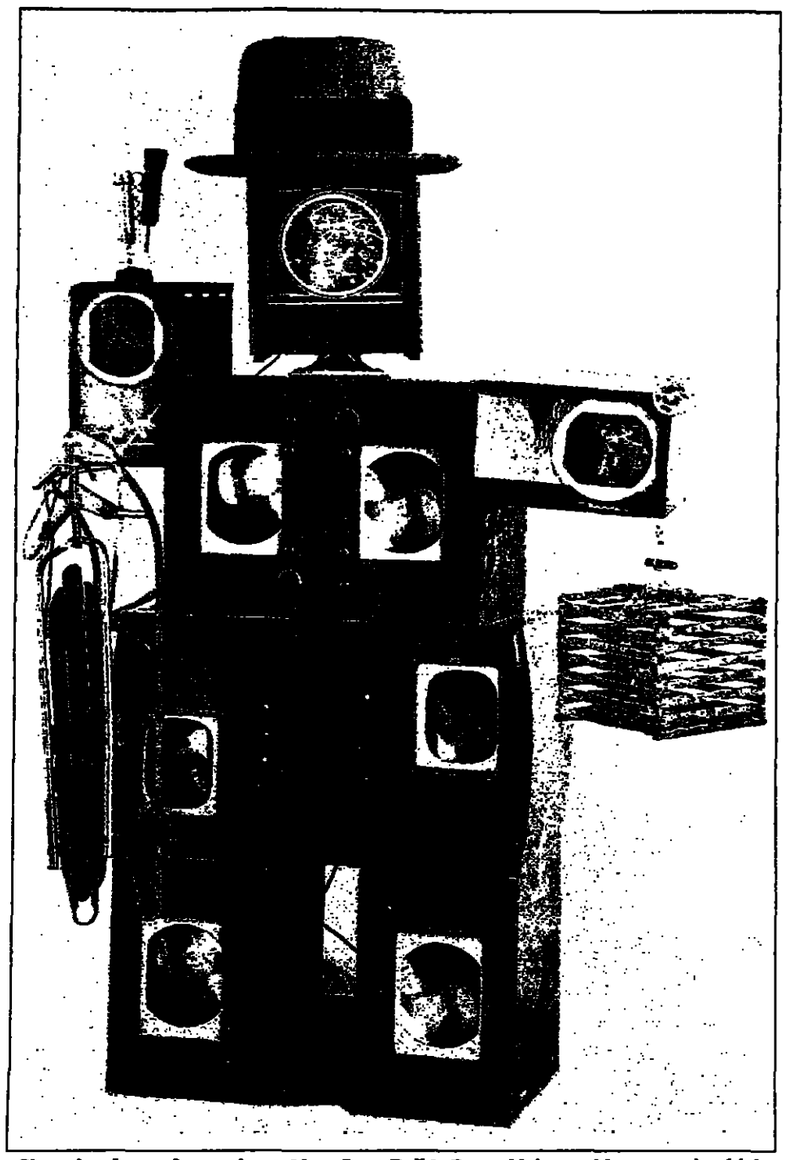
Colville's refusal to supply a bland image offers a corrective to the proliferation of unrevealing smiles in the permanent collection. Gibson is not afraid to plump for artists like Tony Bevan, who finds anguish in childhood rather than clichéd happiness. Auerbach's *Ruth Bromberg Seated* is equally searching. The sitter's underlying frailty is exposed by the reckless brushmarks as she sways unsteadily in her chair.

Gibson's selection is also unconstrained by the need to focus exclusively on celebrated sitters. Most of the outstanding portraits in this loan survey concentrate on people unfamiliar to the public at large. Lucian Freud does not even name the two figures in his exhibit. He calls it *Painter and Model*, and reverses expectations by personifying the artist as a clothed woman standing beside a naked man awaiting her inspection on the dilapidated sofa. What counts, here, is the tension between maker and sitter, both in their turn aware of Freud's scrutiny behind his easel. The figures become part of his unnerving world, just as the financier Gilbert de Botton finds himself trapped by a bare, claustrophobic setting in Francis Bacon's arresting picture.

Not yet represented in the NPG's permanent collection, Bacon is surely among the greatest unofficial portrait painters of our time. He avoided commissions and celebrated faces, preferring the licence bestowed by friendship with his sitters. As a result, the exhibition of his *Small Portrait Studies* at Marlborough Fine Art is wholly compelling.

Bacon claimed the liberty to be as invasive as he liked, subjecting these faces to virtuoso distortions which reflect his own feelings about energy, desire, trauma, grandeur and death. He revolutionised the modern portrait and enlarged its possibilities, whereas most of the professional practitioners at the NPG succeed only in embalming its corpse.

- *Later 20th-Century Galleries at the National Portrait Gallery (071-306 0055).* The Portrait Now *runs until Feb 6*
- Francis Bacon's Small Portrait Studies *at Marlborough Fine Art (071-629 5161) until Dec 3*



Changing faces of portraiture: Nam June Paik's *Beuys-Voice*, a video portrait which celebrates the charismatic showmanship of the late German artist Joseph Beuys

LONDON CONCERTS

Baton change sets up winner

ANYBODY who claims *that conducting is a phoney* profession — a fashionable stance in some quarters — should have been at the **St Petersburg Philharmonic**'s Barbican concerts on Tuesday and Wednesday. Even when a great orchestra is on stage, the matter of who directs makes an enormous difference to how they play, not just in terms of interpretation but in technical things too.

Unfortunately for **Yuri Temirkanov**, he had to face comparison with the inspiring **Mariss Jansons**. Yet even had he not, one would be obliged to express serious disappointment with the results he obtained in Stravinsky's 1947 version of *Petrushka* and in Prokofiev's Fifth Symphony. Raggedness characterised the orchestra's playing of both works, while the effort to characterise *Petrushka* with distinctive Russian-sounding qualities led to some ugly self-caricaturing sounds — thin-toned brass and woodwind.

Moreover, his tempos in this work tended to be anxious, geared for superficial thrills: cues were snatched at, leading to minor disagreements at entries. Then he opted for Stravinsky's surely misjudged concert ending, so denying us the piece's denouement. No dropped tambourine signifying the near-silent cut of the guillotine, no death scene, no ghost; one felt quite cheated.

Even more inexplicably, he also left out the brief joining passage — side drum and timpani and brief grotesqueries for clarinets and oboes — between the first and second parts, a passage specifically described in the score as "for continuing". The alternative cadence provided, and here played, was presumably intended simply to cover the possibility of performing part one on its own.

Afterwards the Prokofiev lacked warmth, its rhetoric stiffly rather than elegantly shaped. Temirkanov's speeding up at the end of the second movement was a gesture that had no place.

If he did not make the orchestra sound like the great one it is — even those famous strings sounded out of sorts — Jansons the following evening exercised full authority and passion. Berlioz's *Carnaval Romain* overture caressed the senses and sizzled just as it should. There was a particularly lovely, rounded cor anglais solo here. Then came Rachmaninov's Symphonic Dances in a beautifully moulded performance only slightly tarnished by a not always entirely unanimous attack in the upper strings — occasionally attacks seemed to filter back from the front desks.

Everything matters to Jansons. Though his sweeping gestures look extravagant they are always directed towards the music



Mariss Jansons: control and passion combined

and not himself. Under him the orchestra now seemed to be listening to itself intently, straining ear and muscle to make the most beautiful, the most dramatic sounds it could. And everything kept its shape, its context, which in Sibelius's Violin Concerto is no easy matter.

Here, Maxim Vengerov, just 19 years old, proved just as he did in his Proms performances this summer and last that his is an enormous talent, even if, as the opening of the concerto showed, the ardency of his passion reveals that touching adolescent propensity for exaggeration. But what a gorgeous sound.

STEPHEN PETTITT



Doctor's orders

ART MARKET DIARY

BILLIONAIRES have been coming out of the woodwork with offers to buy Van Gogh's *Dr Gachet*, following stories that the Japanese owner of the world's most expensive painting is in trouble. Until now Christopher Burge, Christie's New York president, had been brushing off applicants, insisting that his client does not want to sell. But the reports this week that the owner, Ryoei Saito, has been arrested in Japan for allegedly bribing a politician over a property deal may put a different complexion on the matter.

The problem for Burge is the much-reduced price. Whereas the Van Gogh fetched a breathtaking $82.5 million (£49.7 million) in 1990, today's offers are considerably more earthbound: in the region of $55 million.

● DAVID MESSUM has become the phoenix of the art market, rising from the ashes of his own empire. Having been forced into liquidation last August, he has reopened in style in London's contemporary-art market Mecca, Cork Street.

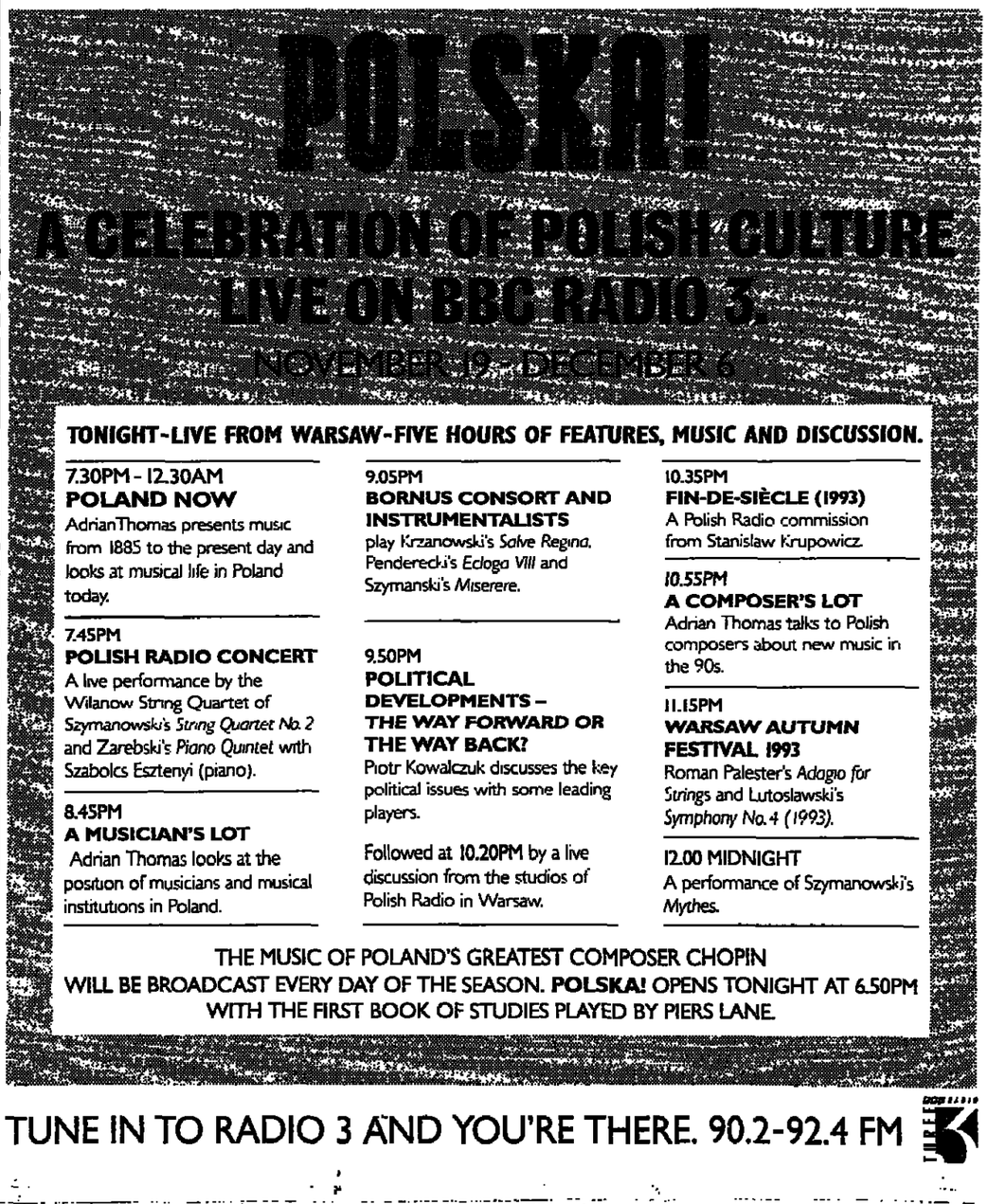
His tale is a curious one. One day, Messum was informed he was going into liquidation. The next, his stock was taken away by receivers in a van. Their plan was to sell it at two auctions for an estimated £200,000 at Phillips. When the auctions flopped, Messum approached the receiver suggesting he buy the stock back and sell it himself. They accepted, and so David Messum's business was reborn.

Market forces

The law of market overt — whereby the title to stolen goods can legitimately pass to a buyer if they are sold in certain street markets — has long been a headache for the bona fide art market. Take the case of the two paintings stolen from Lincoln's Inn in London, and the subject of a dispute after having been "sold" at Bermondsey market in Southwark, south London, following the theft.

Now at last, after much huffing and puffing by police and loss adjustors alike, legislation is planned to abolish this ancient law. Lord Renton, a lawyer with experience of working in the Home Office, has agreed to sponsor a private bill.

SARAH JANE CHECKLAND



WEEKEND CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

LONDON

DAZZLE IN THE OLIVIER: An annual exhibition of contemporary jewellery, metalsmithing, small objects and wallhangings. True to its name.
National Theatre, both Olivier foyers, South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2033). Opens tomorrow until Jan 8.

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA: The highlight of ENO's autumn season is *Lohengrin*, the first new production of a Wagner opera at the Coliseum in nearly a decade. Edmund Barham, Linda McLeod, Linda Finnie and Malcolm Donelly are amongst the cast. Mark Elder conducts; produced by Tim Albery; designs by Hildegard Bechtler.
Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-836 3161). Tomorrow, 4.30pm.

THE IRON MAN. First day of previews for Peter Townshend's new rock opera based on Ted Hughes' wonderful modern fairytale. But how will Josette Bushell Mingo, playing the "Space-bat-angel-dragon", fly her wings in the sun?
Young Vic, 66 The Cut, SE1 (071-928 6363). Today, 11am and 7pm. Opens Nov 25, 7pm.

LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: The second of the **Messiaen: a Commemoration** series of concerts. Kent Nagano, a close friend of Messiaen, will introduce the UK premiere of the composer's *Eclairs sur l'Au-Delà* from the platform.
Barbican, Silk Street, London EC2 (071-638 8891). Sunday, 7.30pm

ELSEWHERE

BIRMINGHAM: A busy weekend for the **Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra**: this evening's programme includes Berlioz (*Overture, Le Corsaire*), Beethoven (Piano Concerto No 4, Rudolf Buchbinder); Barber (Symphony No 1); and Gershwin (*An American in Paris*). On **Sunday** at the Royal Festival Hall in **London**: Vaughan Williams (Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis); William Bolcom (Lyric Concerto for Flute and Orchestra, James Galway) and Richard Strauss (*Ein Heldenleben*)
Symphony Hall, Broad Street (021-212 3333). Tonight, 8pm.

EDINBURGH. Opening night for Brian Cox in the title role of *The Master Builder*, Ibsen's strong drama of a man challenged by the free spirit of a young woman to conquer his fears. He co-directs with John Crowley.
Royal Lyceum, Grindlay Street (031-229 9697). Tonight, 7.45pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mat Sat (Nov 27, Dec 4), 3.15pm. Till Dec 4

ALSO in Edinburgh this evening, jazz saxophonist **Andy Shepherd** and his band Big Co-Motion. Undulating solos, lush keyboards — can hardly put a foot wrong on stage.
Queen's Hall, Clerk Street (031-668 2019). Tonight, 8.30pm.

MANCHESTER. The **Dazzle** exhibition here is a glowing tribute to 55 of Europe's leading contemporary jewellery designers.
Royal Exchange Theatre, St Ann's Square (061-833 9333). Mon, Tue and Thurs, 10am-7.30pm; Fri 10am-8pm; phone for Wed and Sat schedules.

PLYMOUTH: A mixed bill from the **Birmingham Royal Ballet**: Matthew Hart's reflections on a tropical day in *Street*; *The Dream*, an enchanting classical work from Frederick Ashton, and *Elite Syncopations*, MacMillan's wonderfully captured atmosphere of jazz age dance halls.
Theatre Royal, Royal Parade (0752 267222). Tonight and Sat, 7.30pm.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

■ **ANGELS IN AMERICA**: Religion, sex, Aids, corrupt politics: a vision of America at the edge of disaster. Tony Kushner's award-winning *Millenium Approaches* and its sequel *Perestroika* open this weekend.
National (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Final preview for **Perestroika** tonight, 7.15pm. The double bill, Sat, 1.45pm and 7.30pm, day tickets and returns only.

■ **CAROUSEL**: Tuneful and cleverly set Rodgers and Hammerstein musical extravaganza.
Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5399). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm. 165mins.

☐ **DR FAUSTUS**: Jonathan Cullen plays the curious scholar tempted by Hugh Rose as Mephistophilis. Philip Franks directs Marlowe, murdered 400 years ago in the neighbouring borough.
Greenwich Theatre, Crooms Hill, SE10 (081-858 7755) Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm. Till Dec 11.

◪ **FOREVER PLAID**: Genial and wittily performed homage to the four-part harmony groups of the 1950s.
Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5070). Mon-Thurs, 8pm; Fri, Sat 8.30pm, mats Fri, (half price). Sat. 6pm.

☐ **THE GRUB STREET OPERA**: Highly entertaining comedy with songs brings to the stage Fielding's satire on government and the royals, banned in 1731. Stylish.
Lilian Baylis, Sadlers Wells, Rosebery Avenue, EC1 (071-837 4104) Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Nov 19, 2pm and Nov 27, 3pm.

◪ **THE L.A. PLAYS**. Han Ong's bleak impression of Los Angeles, minimalist writing but cumulatively powerful.
Almeida, Almeida St, N1 (071-359 4404). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat Sat, 4pm.

☐ **LOOKING THROUGH A GLASS ONION**: John Waters stars in his own musical tribute to John Lennon, and comes remarkably close to conveying his mysterious, if chaotic, charm.
Criterion, Piccadilly Circus, W1 (071-839 4488). Mon-Thurs, 8pm; Fri, Sat, 6pm and 9pm.

◪ **MEDEA**. Diana Rigg returns to the West End in Euripides's tragedy of a woman's revenge. Directed by Jonathan Kent.
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1116). Mon-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 8.30pm; mats Thurs 3pm, Sat 5.30pm

◪ **MISHA'S PARTY**: Barry Foster in the title role of a play set against the 1991 Moscow coup. Co-written by the American Richard Nelson and the Russian Alexander Gelman.
Pit, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight-Sat, 7.15pm; mat Sat, 2pm.

◪ **OLEANNA**: Power, politics and punishment at an American university. David Suchet and Lia Williams star in Pinter's production of Mamet's play.
Duke of York's, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-836 5122). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 4pm.

◪ **ONE MAN**: Electrifying performances by Steven Berkoff in three solo pieces: Poe's *Telltale Heart*; *Actor*, and *Dog*, his hilarious, chilling view of life as seen by a lager lout's rottweiler.
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-494 5040). Mon-Sat, 8pm.

☐ **RELATIVE VALUES**: Susan Hampshire, Sara Crowe and Alison Fiske head a strong cast in Coward's snobbish but clever comedy. Tim Luscombe directs the transfer from Chichester.
Savoy, Strand, WC2 (071-836 8888). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm

☐ **SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER**: Donald Sinden, Miriam Margolyes, David Essex in Peter Hall's revival of the evergreen Goldsmith comedy.
Queens, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5041). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat. 2.30pm.

☐ **THE TAMING OF THE SHREW**. Bill Alexander's lively and continually surprising production of this familiar, yet provoking play. With Amanda Harris and Anton Lesser.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight-Sat, 7.15pm; mat Sat, 2pm. 180mins.

LONG RUNNERS: ◪ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (071-867 1044) ◪ **Buddy**: Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) ... ■ **Cats**. New London (071-405 0072) ... ■ **Crazy for You**: Prince Edward (071-734 8951) ... ◪ **Don't Dress for Dinner**: Duchess (071-494 5070) ... ◪ **Five Guys Named Moe**: Lyric (071-494 5045) ... ■ **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat**: Palladium (071-494 5037) ... ■ **Les Misérables**: Palace (071-434 0909) ... ■ **Miss Saigon**: Theatre Royal, Drury Lane (071-494 5400) ... ☐ **The Mousetrap**: St Martin's (071-836 1443) ... ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**: Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) .. ◪ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) ... ■ **Sunset Boulevard**: Adelphi Theatre (071-344 0055) .. ☐ **Travels With My Aunt**: Whitehall (071-867 1119) ... ☐ **The Woman in Black**: Fortune (071-836 2238).

Ticket information supplied by Society of West End Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

ALADDIN (U): Disney's brash Arabian cartoon does not match expectations, though Robin Williams's Genie is fun. Directors, John Musker, Ron Clements.
Odeon Leicester Square (0426-915683)

◆ **THE CONCIERGE** (PG): Trials and tribulations of an ambitious concierge in a New York hotel. Outdated vehicle for the ebullient Michael J. Fox. Director, Barry Sonnenfeld.
Empire (071-437 1234/497 9999) **MGMs: Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

◆ **THE MAN WITHOUT A FACE** (12): Scarred recluse tutors a young outcast. Queasy drama with something to say from director-star Mel Gibson.
MGMs: Baker Street (071-935 9772) **Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426-914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Plaza** (071-497 9999) **Warner** (071-437 4343) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

◆ **POSSE** (15): Outlaw blacks ride the prairie. Just an urban ghetto drama in Western clothes. Mario Van Peebles stars and directs.
Odeon West End (0426 915574)

◆ **SO I MARRIED AN AXE MURDERER** (12): Is a beat poet's latest flame a serial killer? Foolish but breezy vehicle for "Wayne's World" star Mike Myers. Thomas Schlamme directs.
Odeons: Kensington (0426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **West End** (0426-915574) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

THE STOLEN CHILDREN (15): Policeman escorts prostitute's children to Sicilian orphanage. Perceptive human drama from Gianni Amelio.
MGM Piccadilly (071-437 3561) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426-914666) **Swiss Cottage** (071-586 3057)

THE STRANGER (U): Wandering uncle returns to roost. Satyajit Ray's endearing, often funny, last film starring Utpal Dutt.
Renoir (071-837 8402)

CURRENT

◆ **DAVE** (15): The US President's lookalike takes over. Beguiling comic fantasy, with Kevin Kline and Sigourney Weaver. Ivan Reitman directs.
MGMs: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Notting Hill Coronet** (071-727 6705) **Odeon Marble Arch** (0426 914501) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

◆ **DEMOLITION MAN** (15): Sylvester Stallone versus Wesley Snipes in 21st century L.A. Overblown action romp with satirical touches from Marco Brambilla.
MGMs: Baker Street (071-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

◆ **GUILTY AS SIN** (15): D.A. Rebecca De Mornay falls under the spell of ladykiller Don Johnson. Foolish thriller, minus thrills. Director, Sidney Lumet.
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Welsh voices seek perfect stage

The competition has begun to find the right architect for Cardiff's £42 million opera house project. Simon Tait reports



MICHAEL WHITE

And this will be the Crush Bar ... Mathew Prichard surveys the site of the new opera house in Cardiff Bay

Cardiff's "maritime city", gradually emerging from the ruins of the notorious Tiger Bay area, is a big step closer to getting its cultural centrepiece, a £42 million opera house. Yesterday £500,000 of project development funding from the Welsh Office was announced, allowing an architectural competition for the building to go ahead and, its supporters believe, pushing the opera house to the front of the queue for National Lottery funding.

The opera house will be home to Welsh National Opera for 12 to 14 weeks each year, and a receiving house for large-scale musicals, dance, concerts and drama. WNO believes benefits can already be reaped. Lucy Stout, the company's development director, says that WNO sponsors will see the opera house as a "golden opportunity at the end of the rainbow".

There will be a 2,000-seat auditorium and several rehearsal studios. Building will start in 1996 and the opera house is due to open on the first St David's Day of the new millennium. An architect will be chosen next September from a shortlist of four applicants, plus the four already invited to compete: Sir Norman Foster of Britain, Mario Botta of Switzerland, Rem Koolhaas of Holland and Rafael Moneo of Spain.

"This is to be a building of the 21st century," says Mathew Prichard, chairman of the Cardiff Bay Opera House Trust. "The glory will reflect on the rest of Wales." Prichard is also chairman of the Welsh Arts Council, but will retire when it separates from the Arts Council of Great Britain and becomes responsible for Welsh arts allocations from the lottery.

The opera house scheme is rare in that no voice has been raised against it, with the local authority working in close harmony with the Cardiff Bay Development Corporation set up six years ago by the then Welsh secretary, Nicholas Edwards, now Lord Crickhowell. "I always believed that the arts were part of the general core of economic and social development, central to what we are trying to do in Wales," Lord Crickhowell says.

It was appropriate that yesterday's announcement was made in the new wing of the National Museum of Wales. As secretary of state, Crickhowell had ordered a report into Cardiff's cultural development potential, and one recommendation was that the opera house should go into the vacant centre of the museum. One of his last acts as secretary of state was to ignore that option and instead sanction funds for the new museum wing, opened last month.

There are other developments. Cardiff's beautiful Old Library is a century old, but ceased to be a library in 1988. Standing beside the St David's Concert Hall in the city centre, it houses temporary exhibitions, craft markets and studios for 20-odd artists, but Cardiff cannot at present host big international art exhibitions. Prichard and Adrian Ellis, the arts management consultant who is the opera house project manager, have persuaded the city to promise half the £6.2 million cost of making the Old Library into the city's art exhibition centre.

The city centre and the docklands development are to be connected by a new boulevard, Bute Avenue: a landscaped highway complete with trams running to what will be called Opera House Piazza. Cardiff Bay Art Trust, a public art charity, has appointed a group of artists to be part of the boulevard's planning team, with a say in everything from the shape of the tram stops to the shrubbery aroma.

"The idea of including these considerations has gone beyond the 'per cent for art' stage, where a piece of art might be plonked into something at the last minute," said Sally Medlyn, director of the trust. "Art is integral to what happens here."

The National Museum of Wales's maritime and industrial branch, next to the site, will also be transformed. The NMW's new director is Colin Ford, who set up the much-praised National Museum of Photography in Bradford, and his style would be to create a new building which would not be overshadowed by the opera house: "There is a statement to be made here," he said, "and we intend to make it."

RADIO: Adrian Thomas introduces "Polska!", Radio 3's three-week celebration of Polish arts

Cultural glories of the great survivors

Who, outside Poland, now recognises names such as Mikołaj z Radomia, Wacław z Szamotuł or Bartłomiej Pękiel? When I first went to Poland they meant nothing to me, and it was only when I studied in Krakow in 1971-72 that I began to discover their music for myself. And the same went for the hidden nuggets of 19th-century Polish music, from the operas of Moniuszko to splendid 19th-century chamber pieces.

So one of the reasons why I designed Radio 3's "Polska!" as a broad-based season was to bring to British ears a representative range of Polish music from before 1914, most of it rarely if ever performed in this country, from the anonymous medieval hymn *Bogurodzica* (Nov 22) to the chromatic splendours of 17th-century trio sonatas by Adam Jarzębski (Dec 5/6), and from Juliusz Zarębski's powerfully romantic Piano Quintet (tonight, live from Warsaw) to Mieczysław Karłowicz's orchestral masterpiece *Eternal Songs* (BBC National Orchestra of Wales, Dec 3).

When I first proposed the idea last year, the initial impetus for the Polish season was to celebrate the 60th birthday of Krzysztof Penderecki (Nov 23) and Henryk Górecki (Dec 6), with Witold Lutosławski having celebrated his 80th birthday last January. Lutosławski and Górecki have always been central to my appreciation of contemporary music. There is a special emphasis in "Polska!" on Górecki — several of the colossal early works are being given UK premieres in the next few days by the BBCPO and BBCSO in Manchester, Huddersfield and London. And on Górecki's birthday, Radio 3 will be broadcasting his Second Symphony, "Copernican", live from his home city of Katowice.

Add to this the extraordinary variety of music by their contemporaries and by younger compatriots such as Paweł Szymański (BBC commission, tomorrow) and Hanna Kulenty (BBCSO, live next Wednesday). What we have ended up with is a season bursting with evidence that Poland sustained a vibrant musical culture at many stages in its turbulent history.

But no survey of Polish music would be complete without Chopin — virtually his complete music for piano will be heard — or Szymanowski, including the rarely heard *Kurpian Songs* (BBC Singers, Dec 5), and the complete Mazurkas (to be broadcast at closedown, Nov 19-30). And one of the delights of designing such a season are the informal links to be made. So the two works that inspired Górecki's *Old Polish Music* (BBC Scottish SO, Nov 30) are included in vocal programmes given by the Hilliard Ensemble (Nov 22 and 29).

From the beginning I also wanted to reflect as much as possible on other areas of Polish cultural achievements: *pre-20th century poetry*, for example, as well as drama, film, the visual arts, cuisine, and of course the influence of politics on the arts. I am a great devotee of their folk music, the wild, experimental musical cross-mixing, their formidable jazz scene, and the great cabaret singer Ewa Demarczyk, the "Polish Edith Piaf". The whole range of the season — over 120 programmes — is made possible not only by the orchestral and choral resources of the BBC, but also by the co-operation of Radio 3's Polish counterpart Programme 2.

As I fly to Warsaw to present the opening Polish evening, "Poland Now", live tonight from Polish Radio (including a concert mounted specially for Radio 3 in its new concert hall), I cannot help reflecting on my own journey of exploration into Poland's past. I hope that "Polska!" will give listeners a flavour of the history, culture, sights and sounds that so enthralled me more than 20 years ago.

● *"Polska!" starts this evening on BBC Radio 3 and continues until Dec 8*

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POP ON FRIDAY: Today Stockholm, tomorrow the world ... Dylan sings other people's songs, badly ... Patra's rude ragga

Sweden: the name on everybody's hits

Britain, beware; America, watch out — the hot new sounds are coming from Stockholm and all points north. **David Sinclair** reports







(Clockwise from above) Di Leva, Stina Nordenstam and Fleshquartet are just three of the Swedish performers following in the glittering, all-conquering footsteps of Abba

Di Leva is a strange, wispy character with long, curly hair, big, frightened eyes and a voice that sounds, at times, like that of the young David Bowie. He wears lipstick and dresses, and can be seen swigging from a watering can in one of his videos. He writes lyrics such as: "Adam and Eve fly upstream with a bumblebee / Inside a tree the aliens watch"; and: "Clowns are always made of space / Everyone's an egg." None of this has prevented Di Leva from becoming a much-loved pop star — something of a cultural icon even — in his native Sweden.

This week he released his first album in Britain. Entitled *Naked Number One* it is a fruity concoction abounding with memorable pop melodies and laced with an improbable, quirky charm. Whether it will catch on in the already overcrowded British market remains to be seen, but the fact that it has been released in this country at all is a sign of the growing confidence and success with which Sweden is now exporting its music.

> 'They take Anglo-American pop and put their own twist on it'

The presumption that pop music with an international appeal will automatically be Anglo-American in origin has taken some hard knocks in recent years, particularly in Europe where a string of popular uprisings has resulted in Dutch and Belgian techno, French rap and German dance music all being exported around the globe.

Of course, as a producer of internationally successful acts, Sweden has had its moments in the past. There was Abba, of course, the 1974 Eurovision winners who by 1982 had eclipsed even the makers of Volvo cars as the nation's biggest earners of foreign currency. More recently, Europe, the soft metal group (who topped the British chart in 1986 with "The Final Countdown") and pop-rock duo Roxette have kept the Swedish flag flying abroad.

But now a new wave of Swedish acts of a different order is making its presence felt on the international stage. The biggest-selling single in Britain this year (650,000 copies) is "All That She Wants" by the Swedish group Ace Of Base, and the song is currently sitting pretty at No 3 in the American chart. "Here We Go", the debut single by dance-pop duo Stakka Bo, spent eight weeks in the British Top 40 and charted in most European countries. Dr Alban ("It's My Life") and Army Of Lovers ("Crucified") have registered significant hits all over Europe, while acts like Neneh Cherry (who this year featured on the cover of *Rolling Stone* magazine), Leila K and Titiyo have all built substantial profiles abroad.

It is not only on the dancefloor that the Swedes are making their bid for worldwide acclaim. Clawfinger, a pile-driving rap-metal group from Stockholm, recently spotted on tour with Anthrax, have been given a hefty marketing push in Britain for their album *Deaf Dumb Blind*. In recent weeks the UK music press has been full of praise for Swedish Grammy award winners Popsicle, whose debut album *Lacquer* is an alluring conflation of Smiths-influenced indie-rock.

So why the sudden enthusiasm for all things Swedish? According to Thom Duffy, international deputy editor of *Billboard* magazine, the Swedish acts are not doing anything they haven't done before. "In Sweden they've always shown the ability to take Anglo-American pop and put their own twist on it before exporting it back," he says. "The greater profile of so many acts now is linked to several business reasons, the most prominent being MTV Europe's penetration of Scandinavia. MTV has realised that Swedish musicians can play pop and rock in a pan-European fashion, and has helped to carry it across international boundaries."

Duffy also notes that several of the Swedish acts now being discovered by British fans are signed to the Warner Bros label eastwest — Clawfinger, Di Leva and the singer Stina Nordenstam among them. This is not unrelated to the fact that a senior executive, Sanji Tandan, recently transferred from eastwest to become deputy managing director of Warner Music in Sweden.

"When you have an energetic executive leading the charge for his own territory with connections in the UK, it's going to have an impact," Duffy says.

Tandan himself plays down his role, pointing instead to the cultural affinity Swedes have had with American and English music since the beginning of rock 'n' roll.

"Children learn English from early on in school," he says. "They have a feel for the English language and for Anglo-American pop culture."

But while there is a coals-to-Newcastle ring to much of the current Swedish success story, the cultural traffic is travelling both ways. One of the most extraordinary performances in London this year was by the group Hedningarna (Heathens), who supported the Levellers at the Brixton Academy last month.

Armed with a collection of modern and traditional instruments — keyboards, taped percussion, fiddle, lute, mandolin, pipes and even some home-made recreations of instruments seen in museum drawings — the group played an extraordinary concoction of folk music, most of it sung in an ancient Finnish tongue, underpinned by high-powered funk bass lines and quasi-African rhythms. *Kaksi!*, the group's award-winning album, has been released in Britain on the China label.

According to Eva Wilke, marketing chief of the Swedish independent label Silence Records, it is the thriving indie scene in Sweden which sprang up in the late 1960s (much earlier than in Britain) that has helped to foster the country's unique and diverse modern music scene. "Swedish labels have always tended to co-operate rather than compete, and together we have put a lot of energy into promoting the music outside the country." A good example of this is *Snapology*, a compilation album released in Britain last month. With a recommended price of just £3.99 it features tracks by a dozen bands signed to the Swedish label Snap, including Easy and Whipped Cream, both favourites of MTV's influential *120 Minutes* programme.

So who will follow next in this rolling invasion of the Vikings? One Swedish band crying out for a wider audience is the astonishing Fleshquartet. Their music is an unlikely combination of violin, viola, cellos, drums and percussion overlaid by the gruff, soulful vocals of Freddie Wadling. *Flow*, their magnificent new album, is a melting pot of rock, rap and neo-classical music that produces an effect like nothing that has gone before.

They are joined on several tracks by Nordenstam, whose crystalline harmonies evoke an exquisite tenderness amid the odd Arabic and Indian-sounding intervals and some spectacularly bruising blues and hip-hop grooves. If not the true sound of Sweden, it is the music of a band working at the heart of a very busy cultural intersection.

● Naked Number One *by Di Leva is on WEA (4509-91925). Stakka Bo's single "Down The Drain" (Polydor PZ 301) is released on November 29*

NEW WAVES

The insider's guide to the Next Big Thing

One of the best ways to test an intuition about a rising artist is to watch *The Box*, the cable channel that sells itself on the premise that the viewer controls the content by telephoning with video requests.

Another distinguishing feature of *The Box* is that its content is far from cosy. Alongside the innocent teen appeal of vocal groups such as Jade and Shai or the adolescent aggression of Da Youngstas, this is where you find the sleaze. A cursory glance at *Patra's* "Think (About It)" video could relegate her to the sleaze category, but look beyond the peep-show dancing and she starts to seem interesting.

The single is intriguing enough, being a ragga version of the old James Brown / Lynn Collins song. Collins also features in the video, introducing the track with a militant call to arms: "We gonna use what we got to get what we want."

Patra's own intentions are clear from the title track of her album, *Queen of the Pack*. In the absurdly masculine world of dancehall ragga, no woman has a chance of rising unless her image and delivery are forceful to the point of caricature. Born in Jamaica, she originally purveyed rude reggae on throwaway singles. Now signed to Sony, she has found a way to subvert (or at least steal back) the sexism.

DAVID TOOP

NEW ALBUMS: Don't think twice; save your money

Oh, mama, could this really be the end?



Bob Dylan can still count on a little help from his friends — Eric Clapton, for example

BOB DYLAN
World Gone Wrong
(Columbia 474857)
TIRED, wizened, and so bereft of inspiration that he has had to resort once again to assembling a grab-bag of old folk tunes rather than write anything new of his own, Bob Dylan is clearly in a state of terminal artistic decline. Even so, he seems more engaged in his work on *World Gone Wrong* than he was on last year's lamentable *Good As I Been To You*.

The sleeve notes, by Dylan himself, are a curious mixture of hard information about the various songs, and opaque 1960s hipster-speak. Among the more palatable efforts is the mournful country blues of "Ragged & Dirty" — "One of the Willie Browns did this: schmaltz and pickled herring" — and the lilting "Blood In My Eyes", a song which sounds as if it might be a distant relation of "Corina Corina".

Although a lot of today's young guns profess to be playing their music only for themselves, jealously guarding their artistic "integrity" from any taint of commerciality, only an old dog like Dylan could make an album so genuinely unheeding of market conditions (and lacking in contemporary relevance) as this. In that sense, perhaps, *World Gone Wrong* boasts a certain grim merit. These are the sort of songs that Dylan might have considered for inclusion on his very earliest albums, but at least they are anchored deep in the soil that nurtured his prodigious talent in the first place.

It is still hard to excuse the wilful incompetence of the performances. His flat, croaky singing is accompanied by some shockingly duff guitar playing, and while a Dylan album without the fluffed notes would hardly be authentic, it is astounding, given the sophistication of modern studio technology, that a single acoustic guitar can be so badly recorded that it distorts. Well, astounding, that is, until a quick check of the credits reveals the legend: Produced by Bob Dylan.

TEXAS
Ricks Road
(Vertigo 518 252)
THE great thing about Texas, when they started out in Glasgow in the late 1980s, was that they were about the only modern popular group to take as their starting point the roots-rock sound of veteran American musicians such as slide guitarist Ry Cooder. Add the powerful voice and brooding glamour of Sharleen Spiteri — an early pretender to Chrissie Hynde's throne — and Texas were able to forge ahead while contemporaries such as Wet Wet Wet and Deacon Blue slogged away with their ersatz soul routines.

Unfortunately, now that pop guitar bands with rootsy influences are a dime a dozen, and "rock chick" singers who sound vaguely like Hynde can be found hanging about on most street corners, Texas have merged into the crowd. And, although *Ricks Road* is as good an album as any they've made, it lacks the qualities that have marked out the recent collections by newcomers like Aimee Mann and Sheryl Crow.

There are lots of chunky songs, like "You've Got To Live A Little", with muscular guitar parts welded to bouncy choruses, and one or two slow-burners, such as the Janis Joplin-esque "I Want To Go To Heaven", but it all now sounds rather ordinary and superficial. "You Owe It All To Me", with its haunting, dustbowl guitar intro, has a nice mid-tempo feel, but even the best number on the album, a belter called "Fade Away", sounds like the sort of thing a truly committed retro-rocker like Lenny Kravitz would pull off with a lot more conviction.

LISA STANSFIELD
So Natural
(Arista 74321172312)
SOUL singers can often be found treading a fine line between slow-burning sensuality and soggy sentimentality. Sometimes the wrong timbre of voice for the song, or even a few words out of place, are enough to turn a lover's clinch into a loser's cliché.

On her previous two albums, Lisa Stansfield carefully balanced the sultry, after-hours moods against material in a funkier, more assertive, vein, while maintaining a characteristically sparky edge to her material.

On *So Natural* the ingredients are almost the same, but the spark has gone. Where once there was a forthright spring in the Rochdale diva's step, there is now a strangely routine quality about her performances, reflected in the endlessly lovey-dovey, one-track lyrics of songs like "I Give You Everything", "Marvellous Mine" and "Never Set Me Free". Even allowing for the continuing allure of her smoky voice, it has to be said that this is a complacent effort at best.

VARIOUS ARTISTS
No Alternative
(Arista 07822 18737)
Born To Choose
(Ryko RCD 10256)
THE hard truth about benefit albums is that very few people buy them because they are earning money for a particular cause. Such albums have to be properly marketed and worth having, regardless. These two compilations are both indicative of the increasing sophistication and imagination rock's do-good tendency is now applying to such projects.

No Alternative is the third album to emerge under the auspices of the Red Hot Organization, created to assist in the fight against Aids. The disappointing sales of a previous compilation, *Red Hot And Dance*, was ascribed to the disparate nature of the artists taking part and the fact that a number of the tracks were already available elsewhere. *No Alternative*, however, is comprised entirely of previously unreleased tracks, many of them well worth having, and is carefully targeted to appeal to fans of the so-called "alternative" American rock scene. Among the 18 contributors are Soul Asylum, Urge Overkill, Uncle Tupelo, Soundgarden, Patti Smith, Pavement and Matthew Sweet.

Soundgarden, Pavement and Sweet also turn up on *Born To Choose*, a similar compilation to raise funds for various American pro-abortion organisations and women's groups. There are only 12 tracks on this one, again all previously unreleased, but it is still a strong line-up including Tom Waits, Cowboy Junkies, Sugar and R.E.M. with Natalie Merchant.

DAVID SINCLAIR

TOP TEN ALBUMS

1	**Both Sides**	Phil Collins (Virgin)
2	**So Far So Good**	Bryan Adams (A&M)
3	**Bat Out Of Hell II — Back Into Hell**	Meat Loaf (Virgin)
4	**The One Thing**	Michael Bolton (Columbia)
5	**One Woman — The Ultimate Collection**	Diana Ross (EMI)
6	**End Of Part One — Greatest Hits**	Wet Wet Wet (Precious)
7	**So Close**	Dina Carroll (A&M)
8	**Everything Changes**	Take That (RCA)
9	**The Singles Collection**	David Bowie (EMI)
10	**The Red Shoes**	Kate Bush (EMI)

Compiled by MRIB

CONCERT

In from the cold

Maureen McGovern
Café Royal

UNTIL now I had thought of Maureen McGovern as a super-efficient but clinical interpreter of the Great American Songbook, a singer who was sometimes too eager to show off her spectacular, multi-octave range. The warmer, more intimate tone of her current residency suggests the time has come for a drastic reassessment.

Originally a folk singer, she once cornered the market in theme songs for Hollywood disaster epics such as *The Poseidon Adventure* and *The Towering Inferno*, finally indulging in a full-scale self-parody by playing a singing nun from hell in the immortal spoof *Airplane*.

Broadway and off-Broadway shows followed. More recently she has earned praise for a well-crafted album of Gershwin songs; a collection of second world war songs is also said to be on the way. As she enters her mid-forties she is settling ever more comfortably into the persona of an intelligent and unschmaltzy cabaret artist.

She relies less on pure charisma than faultless technique and her unabashed enthusiasm for the old-fashioned virtues of lesser-known show songs. Her carefully paced show — devoted on this occasion to the music of Stephen Sondheim, Jule Styne and Leonard Bernstein — was embellished with wry showbiz anecdotes, cut-glass diction, flurries of scat vocalising and graceful accompaniment from an unorthodox piano, bass and reeds trio.

Each of the songs, from "I'll Walk Alone" to the Rosalind Russell tribute on "Wrong Note Rag", became a fully rounded theatrical performance. Avoiding eye-contact with the diners around her, McGovern fixed her gaze in the middle-distance, immersing herself in each successive role. We were spared her over-the-top Deanna Durbin impersonations this time. It was a pity, though, that her selection from *West Side Story* was so brief.

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300SL 92J Bluebk/cream lthr 8 hole alloys teal seal 10 000 mls FSH £44 900 W0942 722553

300 TE Est Auto H reg Al Hen. A/C. 7 seat Almea 1 Own. FMDSH £15 900 P/x HP avail 0327 33278/ 0850 601449 I

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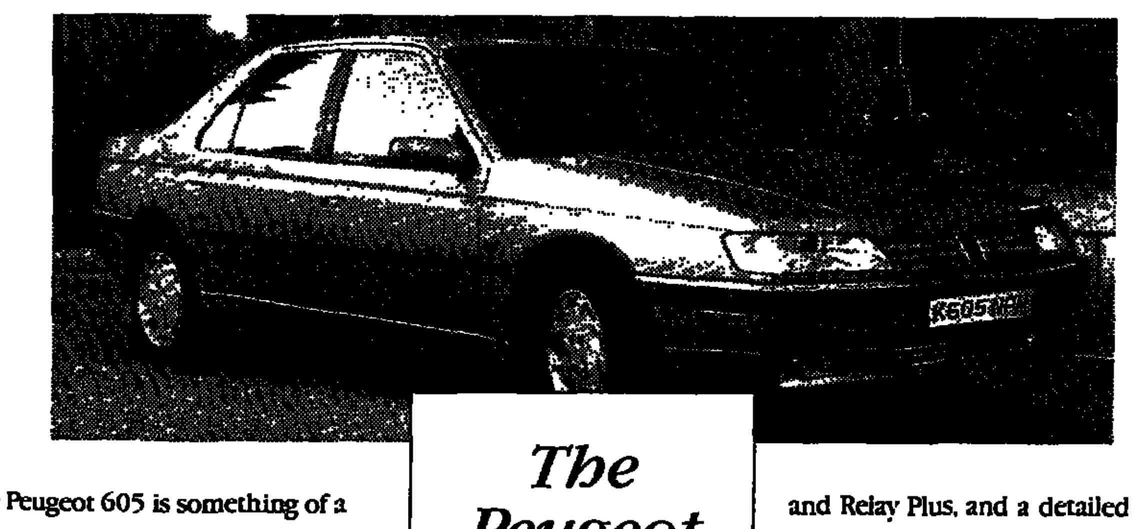
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MOTORING

Are you ever too old to drive?

Elderly drivers can often be safer than youngsters. As a conference focuses on older road users, Vaughan Freeman finds age no barrier to skills at the wheel

Professor Thomas Scott first got behind the wheel of a car in 1924 — before the introduction of driving tests — when motorways, airbags and catalytic converters were yet to be invented and the Model T Ford was still being churned out in millions as the ultimate expression of modern-day motoring.

Last year Professor Scott, now 87, became one of the oldest drivers to take — and pass with flying colours — the challenging advanced test set by the Institute of Advanced Motorists. He covers about 6,000 miles a year in his two-litre Nissan *Primera SLX* saloon, a car capable of 130mph and a far cry from the bull-nosed Morris Cowley, with its dickey-seat at the rear, that was his first vehicle.

Professor Scott's motoring concerns, and those of millions of senior motorists like him, take centre stage today as road, transport, and planning experts gather in London for a conference on older road users, sponsored by the AA Foundation for Road Safety Research.

The foundation forecasts that by the middle of the next century, the number of drivers over 55 will have more than doubled to 16 million people with the health and disposable income to stay mobile.

The myth about older drivers is that they are slow, dangerous and should not be on the road. A survey last year among drivers reported that 10 per cent said they believed motorists over 65 would be banned by the end of the decade. The truth is that the experience older drivers bring to the road makes them safer in many cases. A number of insurance companies reinforce this by offering discounts of 10 per cent and more for motorists who are aged over 60.

Professor Scott, of Wilmslow, near Manchester, is a former professor of medicine who once lectured on the health hazards facing older drivers. He believes that mandatory examinations of older drivers, either of their eyesight or general physical competence, would be a logistical nightmare.

He says: "It would be pretty grim if all drivers, or all older drivers, had to have an eye test. Obviously, drivers with a specific problem, or an indication of a difficulty, should do something about it. As for general mobility, most people, once they get behind the wheel of a car, are as mobile as a person 20 years younger."

> 'To say that an older driver is incompetent because he is old is wrong'

He warns against anti-age prejudice and says older drivers should not all be lumped together but recognised as having difficulties, as many younger drivers do, that are not necessarily age-linked.

"An older person, for example, with advanced Alzheimer's disease, is not physically able to drive, but the same would apply to a younger person with a medical condition.

"I may be speaking from a prejudiced point of view, but I believe this is an area where you have to discount age and consider the individual circumstances. If you are considering somebody with a strangulated hernia you have to divorce age from it and treat the condition.

"It is true that the older you are the more likely you are to have problems, but to say an older driver is incompetent simply because he is old, is wrong. He is incompetent because he has poor eyesight, or his awareness is poor, but not particularly because he is old."

Accident statistics show that the most accident-prone drivers by far are those under 29, whose eyesight and reactions are supposed to be better, while those over 60 have only a slightly higher accident rate than motorists aged 30 to 60.

Failing eyesight and hearing, plus physical frailty — though this can be compensated for by features such as power steering and automatic gearboxes — all contribute to the problems of elderly motorists. But Professor Scott points out that older drivers, by driving more slowly, often compensate by allowing themselves more time to react.

However, older people are more likely to be injured if they are involved in an accident. Road deaths rise with age largely because a physical injury is three times more likely to be fatal to a person aged 70 than to a person aged 20. Slowing reactions, an inability for older eyes to adjust as quickly to headlights blazing in the dark, plus a lack of concentration — sometimes not helped by prescribed medicines — contribute to the hazards.

All of this results in regular calls for the elderly to undergo stricter physical assessments before being allowed to carry on driving. At present, it is necessary only for drivers, having reached 70, to renew their licence every three years with a declaration that they are still fit to drive, though there is no requirement for a physical examination.

Given the numbers involved, mandatory physical assessments at a particular age would pose huge problems. A quarter of Britain's 25.5 million regular drivers are over 55, and 13 per cent are over 65. In some areas the ratio is even higher.

The AA reports, for instance, that in the West Country and in Wales more than one in three drivers (36 per cent) are aged 55 and over and that, while in 1981 only 10 per cent of motorists were over 65, that number had grown to 15 per cent ten years later. Keeping the car is particularly important for the elderly in rural areas, where declining bus and rail services leave little option to hopping into the family motor.

While today's conference will discuss everything from road design to the health problems that afflict older drivers, motorists of all ages could do worse than take a leaf from Professor Scott's book.

"When I began driving I was excused a test and was licensed to drive all types of vehicle," he says. A chance meeting at a local fête resulted in him preparing for, then taking and passing his IAM advanced test.

"I don't think there were any particularly difficult parts in it, other than keeping within the speed limits," he says. Since passing the test, Professor Scott finds he enjoys driving much more and is better prepared for the unexpected on the road.

As he explains, age is no barrier to driving, or, necessarily, to anything else: "My friend is 96, still plays golf, and took £1.60 off me at bridge the other night. It is not about age."

BARRY GREENWOOD



Thomas Scott discovers that passing the Institute of Advanced Motorists' test in his eighties shows it is never too late to improve

Sainsbury's joins the clean-up

A Times story spurs action over petrol

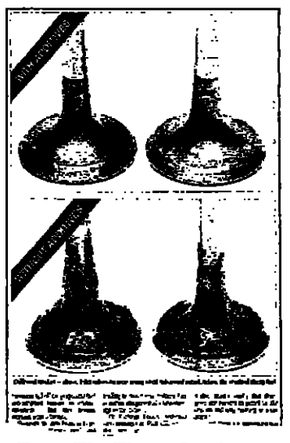
SAINSBURY'S is the first supermarket to follow the move to selling petrol with detergent additives. The company announced this week that all of its 130 filling stations will be stocking fuel with the additives by the middle of next week, *writes Kevin Eason.*

Sainsbury's decision comes less than a month after *The Times* revealed that cars which are run exclusively on ordinary petrol could suffer carbon deposits that may lead to serious fouling of the engine.

The disclosure has led to a war of words within the industry with the oil majors, such as Shell, BP and Esso, claiming that petrol with additives is vital and those without additives claiming it is not necessary.

Sainsbury's says that it has been investigating the additives question for most of this year, consulting with the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders and several of the main carmakers.

Many drivers use petrol from Sainsbury's because, like that of other big supermarket providers, it can be as much as 15p a gallon cheaper than fuel from the rival oil majors.



From *The Times*, October 22

When a Continental buyer said ignore the cost, Lagonda had the answer

A marque of excellence

Big enough to carry a chest of drawers, yet with a top speed of more than 170mph, the Lagonda has been revived in the tradition of cars made for glorious self-indulgence.

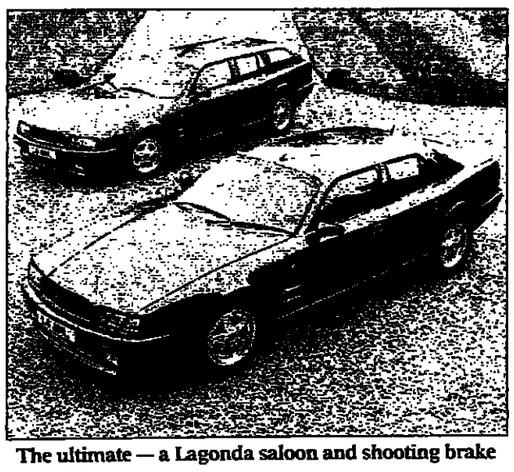
Aston Martin Lagonda proved that if you are going to do a job well, you may as well go over the top — like building an estate car with a top speed more than twice the legal motorway limit.

The badge goes on to a four-door saloon and a 'shooting brake' estate. The first five cars have been built to order. With a total value of £1.25 million, these are not cars which will be made on the assembly lines but are bespoke models as hand-fitted as a Savile Row suit.

Even though the basic model costs at least £115,000 for the saloon and £121,000 for the shooting brake, owners have their choice of a wide variety of exotic "extras", some more familiar in the living room than a car.

Choosing the colour is the least difficult task. After that, the owner of a new Lagonda must sift through layers of Wilton carpet and Connolly leather and then decide how many seats to have, four or five in the saloon, or four or six in the shooting brake.

To complete the package of home comforts, there is a choice of stereo and compact disc systems and a television and video. The shooting brake takes Aston Martin Lagonda away from its purely sporting image, with a model which offers estate-car room at the back but does not compromise performance.



The ultimate — a Lagonda saloon and shooting brake

With a 5.3-litre V8 engine offering 310 brake horse power — about three times more than the average family saloon — the Lagondas can top 170mph. For owners who decide that even more power is necessary, there is the option of a 6.3-litre, 500 bhp engine.

If the performance figures seem extraordinary by the standards of most motorists, they are no more outlandish than the last Lagonda to be seen on the roads.

That was the futuristic-looking model designed by William Towns, with its long, sweeping bonnet which made it seem more fitted for the set of *Thunderbirds* than the streets of Britain.

However, Aston Martin's factory at Newport Pagnell, Buckinghamshire, made 645 Lagondas and Walter Hayes, the company's executive chairman, said there was enduring affection for the Lagonda badge.

The first shooting brake was the result of a call from a continental businessman who asked Mr Hayes for a five-door car. "We do not do one and if we did, it would be prohibitively expensive," he replied, he thought reasonably.

But the reply was: "I want a five-door estate. I am not asking the price." So the car was built — for £250,000.

Mr Hayes says: "Inspiration for these new Lagondas, which have been in development for almost 12 months, is entirely due to the owners. The renewal of individual demand for a more capacious four-door has been met through the expansion of our coachwork facilities and they are very special examples of British bespoke craftsmanship and the heritage of Aston Martin Lagonda."

KEVIN EASON

Not to be outfoxed

ROADWISE

VOLKSWAGEN has decided to tackle head-on a drop in UK sales with some price cuts. It is reducing the cost of its Polo range by an average of 7 per cent. The Polo Fox is now £604 cheaper at £5,995, while the top of the range Polo G40 is £9,995 instead of £10,599.

Volkswagen has already this year slashed the cost of its Vento models by 8.7 per cent and dropped prices of 1993-model Golf, Passat and Corrado cars by 4.1 per cent.

Saloons slip

THE traditional saloon is losing its popularity, according to a survey by *Glass's Guide*, the bible of the motor trade. In the past three years, sales of saloons have fallen from 25.9 per cent of the total car market to 22.5 per cent. The market share for hatchbacks, however, is up from 64.6 to 65.8 per cent. Sales of estates are also up from 8.4 to 10.6 per cent, diesels up 5.7 to 16.9 per cent and off-roaders up 1.3 to 2.9 per cent.

More pizzazz

DESPITE the recession, car makers refuse to stand still. Citroën has announced a new ZX, called the Pzazz, at a base price of £8,345. Previous options such as power steering, costing £370 extra, have become a standard fit on diesel models.

Haggle factor

THE Trustee Savings Bank advises buyers never to pay the full asking price for a new car. Its new guide, *Increasing your Bargaining Power*, claims most dealers have as much as 20 per cent profit "to play with" and will be happy to offer discounts. The booklet is available from any of TSB's 1,400 branches.

Female touch

ONE Saab dealer has appointed three women to persuade customers to buy the new 900 series. Oxford Saab has appointed Sharn Orchard, 34, as principal in charge of the garage, with Anne Marie McLoughlin as sales manager and Suzanne Causebrook as sales executive.

Top dog

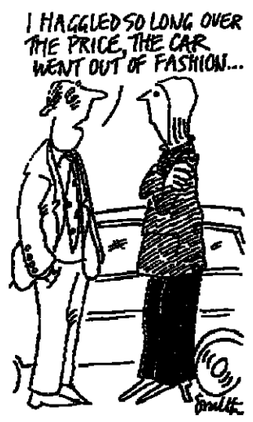
ROVER has won an order for 4,500 cars worth £45 million from the BOC Group. The order is for a mix of models from the popular 200 and 400 series to Montego estate cars, executive 800 cars and the 600 series, launched earlier this year.

Living legend

HONDA is pleased with the latest J.D. Power survey, the most authoritative check on vehicle quality and reliability based in the United States. Power puts Honda's Acura brand, which markets the Legend executive model and NSX sports car in the US, as number one, beating rivals Jaguar, Mercedes-Benz and BMW. Honda says that sales of the Legend in the UK were up 14 per cent in August and 16 per cent in September.

Sloping off

VOLVO has produced *Ski Guide 1994* for intrepid skiers driving to the pistes this year. It covers not only Europe but also North America and Canada, giving details of 320 resorts. The Volvo guide is available from bookshops at £12.



MOTORING

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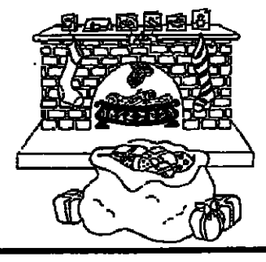
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Bodily harm includes psychiatric injury

Regina v Chan-Fook

Before Lord Justice Hobhouse, Mr Justice Judge and Mr Justice Bell

[Judgment October 22]

Actual bodily harm was capable of including psychiatric injury but it did not include mere emotions, such as fear, distress or panic. In the absence of appropriate expert evidence the question whether an assault had occasioned psychiatric injury should not be left to the jury.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment allowing Mike Chan-Fook's appeal against his conviction at Southwark Crown Court (Judge Charles, QC and a jury) on February 24 1992 of assault occasioning actual bodily harm.

Mr Phillip Sapsford, QC and Mr Charles Salter, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr Brian Barker, QC and Mr Rupert Overbury for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE HOBHOUSE, giving the judgment of the court, said that the question raised by the appeal was whether the jury had been correctly directed upon the meaning of the words "actual bodily harm".

The appellant had been tried solely on a single count under section 47 of the Offences against the Person Act 1861. Unfortunately, the prosecution had chosen to introduce an allegation that, even if the victim had suffered no physical injury as a result of the assault by the appellant, he had nevertheless been reduced to a mental state which in itself, without more, amounted to actual bodily harm.

The only evidence to which the prosecution could point in support of that allegation was the evidence of the victim that he had felt abused and humiliated, that he had been threatened with further violence and that he had been very frightened. There had been no medical or psychiatric evidence to support the allegation.

The judge had directed the jury in terms of the sentence in *Archbold Criminal Pleading Evidence and Practice 1992* (44th ed) at paragraph 19-197: "An assault which causes an hysterical and nervous condition is an assault occasioning actual bodily harm."

He had left that question to the jury. He said: "What is meant by 'actual bodily harm'? . . . It is some actual harm which interferes with the comfort of the individual for the time being, described as any hurt or injury calculated to interfere with the health or comfort of [the victim]."

Historically, the phrase "bodily harm" antedated the 1861 Act. It had been used for a long time in English law in connection with the definitions of aggravated assault and murder. In *R v Ashman* ((1858) 1 F & F 88) Mr Justice Willes had said, in relation to grievous bodily harm: "if [the harm] be such as seriously to interfere with comfort or health, it is sufficient."

That phraseology had been extensively used in relation to grievous bodily harm until the decision of the House of Lords in *DPP v Smith* ([1961] AC 290) when Viscount Kilmuir, Lord Chancellor, had said: "I can find no warrant for giving the words 'grievous bodily harm' a meaning other than that which the words convey in their ordinary and natural meaning. 'Bodily harm' needs no explanation. . ."

Their Lordships considered that the same was true of the phrase "actual bodily harm". Those were three words of the English language which required no elaboration and in the ordinary course should not receive any.

The word "harm" was a synonym for injury. The word "actual" indicated that the injury, although there was no need for it to be permanent, should not be so trivial as to be wholly insignificant. The purpose of the definition in section 47 was to define an element of aggravation in the assault. It had to be an assault, which besides being an assault, caused to the victim some injury.

The danger of any elaboration of the words of the statute was that it might have the effect of altering, or at the least distracting the jury from, the ordinary meaning of the words.

Further, there might be an elision of the need to show some harm or injury. There would be a risk that language would be used which suggested to the jury that it was sufficient that the assault had interfered with the health or comfort of the victim, whether or not any injury or hurt had been caused.

In certain cases an explanation might be required of what was involved in the word "bodily". The sentence quoted from *Archbold* and the direction given by the trial judge had derived from *R v Miller* ([1954] 2 QB 282, 292) where Mr Justice Lynskey had said: "If a person is caused hurt or injury resulting . . . in an injury to her state of mind for the time being, that is within the definition of actual bodily harm. . ."

Mr Justice Lynskey had been concerned with whether an indictment should be quashed; he had not been concerned with defining the offence. In using the phrase "injury to her state of mind", he was using language which, certainly today, would be capable of creating confusion.

The "state" of somebody's mind was not something which was capable of being injured on any ordinary use of language and there were today more accurate and less misleading expressions that should be used. The statement in *Archbold*, although drawn from the headnote in the Law Report, had distorted what Mr Justice Lynskey had actually said.

The first question on the appeal was whether the inclusion of the word "bodily" in the phrase "actual bodily harm" limited "harm" to harm to the skin, flesh and bones of the victim. Mr Justice Lynskey had rejected that submission.

In their Lordships' judgment he had been right to do so. The body of the victim included all parts of his body, including his organs, his nervous system and his brain. Bodily injury therefore might include injury to any of those parts of his body responsible for his mental and other faculties.

Accordingly, the phrase "actual bodily harm" was capable of including psychiatric injury. But it did not include mere emotions such as fear or distress or panic nor did it include, as such, states of mind that were not themselves evidence of some identifiable clinical condition.

The phrase "state of mind" was not a scientific one and should be avoided in considering whether or not a psychiatric injury had been caused. Its use was likely to create in the minds of the jury the impression that something which was no more than a strong emotion, such as extreme fear or panic, could amount to actual bodily harm. It could not.

Similarly, juries should not be directed that an assault which caused an hysterical and nervous condition was an assault occasioning actual bodily harm.

Where there was evidence that the assault had caused some psychiatric injury the jury should be directed that that injury was capable of amounting to actual bodily harm: otherwise there should be no reference to the mental state of the victim following the assault unless it was relevant to some other aspect of the case.

It was relevant to have in mind the relationship between the offence of aggravated assault comprised in section 47 and simple assault.

The latter could include conduct which caused the victim to apprehend immediate and unlawful violence. To treat the victim's fear of such unlawful violence, without more, as amounting to actual bodily harm would be to risk rendering the definition of the aggravated offence academic in many cases.

In any case where psychiatric injury was relied upon as the basis for an allegation of bodily harm, and the matter had not been admitted by the defence, expert evidence should be called by the prosecution. It should not be left to be inferred by the jury from the general facts of the case. In the absence of appropriate expert evidence a question whether or not the assault occasioned psychiatric injury should not be left to the jury.

Cases where it was necessary to allege that psychiatric injury had been caused by an assault would be very few and far between. There had been no reported case on the point since 1953 and the present case was not, on a correct assessment, a case where such an allegation should have been made.

But, if there should be such a case, the evidential difficulties would be no greater than juries often had to consider in other aspects of the criminal law, for example an issue of diminished responsibility. There was no reason for refusing to have regard to psychiatric injury as the consequence of an assault if there was properly qualified evidence that it had occurred.

Solicitors: CPS, Inner London.

Football club was not an unregistered company

Western Counties Construction Ltd v Witney Town Football and Social Club

Before Mr Justice Morritt

[Judgment October 21]

The fact that a football and social club, besides providing various social amenities for its members, also existed for the purpose of promoting professional association football and providing benefits for non-members, was not sufficient to make it an unregistered company under section 220 of the Insolvency Act 1986 and subject to the winding-up procedure under that Act.

Mr Justice Morritt so held in a reserved judgment in the Chancery Division on the appeal of Western Counties Construction Ltd, a creditor of Witney Town Football and Social Club, against the order of Judge Charles Harris, QC, at Oxford County Court on August 11, 1993 that the winding-up petition relating to Witney Town Football and Social Club dated June 10, 1993 be dismissed.

Mr Donald Lambie for the creditors; Miss Raquel Agnello for the club.

MR JUSTICE MORRITT said that Western Counties Construction, supported by four creditors with debts totalling approximately £20,000, sought an order that Witney Town Football and Social Club be wound up.

The club resisted that on the ground that it was not an unregistered company within the meaning of section 220 of the 1986 Act and therefore the winding-up provisions of that Act did not apply to it.

The reasons the club maintained it was not a company within the 1986 Act were:

(i) it was not formed to run as a small members' club but was set up as a body for the purposes of professional association football;

(ii) its activities and facilities were at no stage restricted or intended to be restricted for the benefit of members only, but instead provided access to its grounds for non-members by payment of a fee for the purposes of watching football matches; and

(iii) by participation in professional association football it was engaging in an activity which was not by its nature one restricted to its members and as such it was a commercially minded association and not a social club.

The club was founded in 1885 and was constituted and regulated by rules passed at a special general meeting held on August 14, 1969 as amended at subsequent general meetings. It had 500 members and owned property of considerable value.

It was a member of the Football Association and the Southern Football League, known as the Beazer Homes League, and was affiliated to the Oxfordshire Football Association. It employed professional footballers.

The club, as constituted by its rules was similar to many other social and sporting clubs. But there were three rules which were not usually found in the constitution of such clubs.

They provided:

"2 The club shall exist solely as a body for the purpose of professional association football. The club will also provide various social amenities for its members. . .

"13 The management committee shall have the power to elect honorary day members. Honorary day membership shall be open to officials, members and supporters of visiting clubs for the days of the visit only. . .

"17 The club shall only be wound up by a resolution passed at a special general meeting called for that purpose and the assets of the club shall be [disposed] of, after repayment of all outstanding loans and dues, in accordance with the resolutions passed at such meeting. Upon dissolution of the club all net assets of the club shall be devoted to association football and not distributed between the members."

In his judgment the county court judge had considered the terms of section 220 of the 1986 Act, the provisions of the rules and *In re St James' Club* ((1852) 2 De G M & G 383) and *In re International Tin Council* ([1989] Ch 309).

He posed for his decision the question whether the words of section 220 "any association" indicated clearly that Parliament intended such a club to be subject to the winding-up jurisdiction of the court conferred by the 1986 Act and decided that the answer had to lie in the constitution of the club as provided for in its rules rather than in the size or activity of the club.

The creditor contended that that was wrong and that *In re St James' Club* only applied to clubs in the "ordinary acceptation of the term" (p387).

It submitted that that was not simply a social club but a body set up for the the purpose of professional association football. It was pointed out that whether or not rule 17 was valid the intention was that a member should not have any interest in the assets of the club in the event of a dissolution.

His Lordship held that the county court judge had been right and for the right reasons.

Ever since 1848 the statutory provisions conferring jurisdiction on the court to wind up unregistered companies had defined an unregistered company as including "any association and any company" subject to various exclusions which were not material.

However, the various re-enactments since 1852 had been made in the light of *In re St James' Club* so that the apparently unlimited word "any" could not be given its literal meaning.

The decision of the Court of Appeal in *In re International Tin Council* established that the question was whether Parliament could reasonably have intended a club of that sort to be subject to the statutory winding-up procedure.

His Lordship did not think that the purpose expressed in rule 2 had the result that it was not a club within "the ordinary acceptation of the term" or that it should be inferred that Parliament intended that the court should have jurisdiction to wind it up.

Nor did rules 13 or 17 warrant any implication that Parliament intended that type of club to be capable of being wound up under the provisions of the 1986 Act, for inappropriate cases it could be wound up by the High Court under its inherent jurisdiction without bringing in all the detailed provisions of the Insolvency Act and rules: compare *In re William Denby* ([1971] 1 WLR 973).

Accordingly, the appeal would be dismissed.

The remedy of the creditors lay against the individuals with whom their contracts had been made.

Solicitors: D. A. Borland & Co, Eynsham; Linnells, Witney.

Judge not concerned with use of interim damages

Stringman v McArdle

Before Lord Justice Butler-Sloss, Lord Justice Stuart-Smith and Sir Tasker Watkins

[Judgment November 1]

It was not appropriate for a judge considering an application for interim payment in respect of damages to concern himself with what was to be done with the damages, provided the applicant satisfied the provisions of Order 29, rule 11 of the Rules of the Supreme Court.

The Court of Appeal so held allowing an appeal by Jennifer Margaret Stringman, suing by her father and next friend, Michael Arthur Stringman, against the refusal of Mr Justice McCullough on July 13, 1993 to order the defendant, Thomas Patrick McArdle, to make an interim payment of £100,000.

Order 29, rule 11 provides: "(1) If, on the hearing of an application [for interim payment in respect of damages], the court is satisfied . . . (b) that the plaintiff has obtained judgment against the respondent for damages to be assessed . . . the court may, if it thinks fit and subject to paragraph (2) order the respondent to make an interim payment of such amount as it thinks just, not exceeding a reasonable proportion of the damages which in the opinion of the court are likely to be recovered by the plaintiff after taking into account any relevant contributory negligence. . ."

Mr Rodney Scholes, QC and Mr A. T. Goff for the plaintiff; Mr Andrew Edis for the defendant.

LORD JUSTICE BUTLER-SLOSS said the plaintiff had been knocked down by the defendant's car on a pelican crossing with the lights in her favour. She had been severely injured and was a tetraplegic. Judgment had been given for her for damages to be assessed with contributory negligence agreed at five per cent and she had received two interim payments totalling £87,000.

The application under appeal was for £100,000 to make habitable and suitable a house already bought. The application had been rejected by an assistant district judge and on appeal by Mr Justice McCullough. The plaintiff was in unsuitable housing, placing her parents, especially her mother, under considerable strain.

The judge had taken the view that it was unrealistic to expect that her claim would eventually come close to £1 million and that plans for the conversion were too elaborate. He had been concerned that too large a proportion of her award would be expended on the house and leave too little for care.

It had since been suggested by the plaintiff that the payment should made to the Court of Protection so that court could control the use of the money for the conversion.

The conditions which had to be satisfied before an interim payment could be made were set out in Order 29, rule 11. Mr Edis accepted that the ultimate award would be significantly in excess of £100,000.

It did seem to her Ladyship that to object on the ground that the money was to be applied for the wrong, or too extravagant, purpose was outside the grounds allowed by the rule.

LORD JUSTICE STUART-SMITH, agreeing, said the judge had erred in having concerned himself with what was to be done with the money. Once the threshold conditions in the order were satisfied, what the court had to do was to make a payment of such amount as it thought just not exceeding a reasonable proportion of the damages.

Sir Tasker Watkins gave a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Dooley & Co, Kirkby; Hill Dickinson Davis Campbell, Liverpool.

Enforcing foreign order

In re H (a Child) (Foreign Order)

The court was not bound to enforce an order of a Belgian court requiring a Belgian girl aged 13 resident in Wales to have staying access with her father.

The words "recognition and enforcement" in article 10(1) of the European Convention on Recognition and Enforcement of Decisions concerning Custody of Children and on the Restoration of Custody of Children had to be construed disjunctively.

The Court of Appeal (Sir Stephen Brown, President, Lord Justice Steyn and Lord Justice Kennedy) so held on October 27 when allowing the mother's appeal from an enforcement order made by Mr Justice Ward.

THE PRESIDENT said that that the order of the Belgian court made in January 1989 stated that the father could receive his daughter for staying access. That order was registered in the High Court. The court welfare officer had reported in trenchant terms that the girl had no wish to have any contact with her father.

It was clear from the settled law that the words "recognition and enforcement" should be construed disjunctively. Mr Justice Ward had erred in holding that he had to enforce the order because it had been registered and he could not apply the provisions of article 10(1) in Schedule 2 to the Child Abduction and Custody Act 1985 by which the court was entitled to refuse to enforce an order "if it is found that by reason of a change in circumstances including the passage of time . . . the effects of the original decision are manifestly no longer in accordance with the welfare of the child".

Experts' reports are no abuse of legal aid

Regina v Legal Aid Board, Ex parte Higgins

Before Lord Justice Simon Brown and Mr Justice Buckley

[Judgment October 15]

The use of regulation 21 of the Legal Advice and Assistance Regulations (SI 1989 No 340) to extend the financial limits of the Green Form scheme, under section 2 of the Legal Aid Act 1988, in order to commission costly experts' reports for the purpose of advising on the merits of a case which was otherwise excluded from the scope of legal aid, was not an abuse of the scheme.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held when allowing an application by Miss Grace Higgins for judicial review of the refusal by the Legal Aid Board on May 28, 1993 of an extension of the Green Form scheme for the purposes of obtaining, *inter alia*, experts' reports.

The applicant was one of five petitioners representing a larger group engaged in proceedings before the Visitors to the Inns of Court to challenge the decision of the Council of Legal Education not to certify them as having passed the Bar examinations, for which proceedings legal aid was not available.

Mr Phillip Engelman for the applicant; Mr Duncan Matheson, QC, for the respondent.

LORD JUSTICE SIMON BROWN said that expenses disbursed by a solicitor taking steps on his client's behalf in proceedings were within the scope of Green Form assistance.

It had been submitted on behalf of the respondent that it was appropriate under the regulation to have regard to the fact that Green Form scheme was essentially a quick and cheap first-aid scheme and that it was never intended that it should cover significant and complex litigation. Its use in the present case, in proceedings clearly excluded from the scope of legal aid, should be regarded as an inappropriate back-door method.

The applicant contended, *inter alia*, that the regulation asked only whether it was reasonable for the advice and assistance to be given, not whether it was reasonable that it should be funded under the Green Form scheme.

In his Lordship's judgment, it was implicit in the regulation that whether it was reasonable for advice and assistance to be given under the regulation was to be judged by reference to whether the area office of the Legal Aid Board considered that that should appropriately be done under the Green Form scheme.

The board could have regard to some of its present considerations underlying its approach in deciding whether an extension should be granted, in particular, the simplicity and informality of the Green Form procedures and the low level at which the basic financial limit was set, and in the result determine that the greater the extension sought and the closer it related to proceedings specifically exempted from legal aid the more compelling would need to be the reasons for granting it.

The board should recognise, however, that it had the power to grant further funding for all assistance short of actual representation.

The only reason for not requiring a re-determination in the case was the passage of time, the reports having been commissioned. If the application had been referred, then the board would have had to take into account the applicant's manifest need to obtain expert evidence and the crucial importance of there being a full and fair hearing of the merits of her petition.

Solicitors: Nimoh Akainyah & Co, Camberwell; Collyer-Bristow.

European Law Report — Luxembourg

Copyright protection for non-nationals

Phil Collins v Imtrat Handelsgesellschaft mbH

Patricia Im-und Export Verwaltungsgesellschaft mbH and Another v EMI Electrola GmbH

Joined Cases C-92/92 and C-326/92

Before O. Due, President and Judges G. F. Mancini, J. C. Moitinho de Almeida, D. A. O. Edward, R. Joliet, F. A. Schockweiler, F. Grévisse, M. Zuleeg and J. L. Murray

Advocate General F. G. Jacobs

(Opinion June 30)

[Judgment October 20]

Copyright and related rights which fell within the scope of the EEC Treaty by reason of their effects on intra-Community trade in goods and services, were necessarily subject to the general principle of non-discrimination laid down in the first paragraph of article 7 of the Treaty.

The Court of Justice of the European Communities so held in replying to questions submitted to it for a preliminary ruling under article 177 of the EEC Treaty by the *Landgericht München* [Regional Court, Munich] and by the *Bundesgerichtshof* [Federal Supreme Court].

In Case C-92/92 the questions submitted by the *Landgericht München* had arisen in the course of proceedings between Phil Collins, a singer and composer of British nationality and Imtrat, a producer and distributor of phonograms, relating to the distribution in Germany of a compact disc containing a recording, which had been made without consent of the singer, of a concert given in the United States.

Under the relevant provisions of the *Urheberrechtsgesetz* [law on copyright and related rights] ("*UrhG*") (BGB 1965 I, p1273), non-German artists could not rely on the provisions which prohibited the distribution of unauthorised reproductions of performances in respect of performances given outside Germany.

Mr Collins, however, argued that by virtue of the first paragraph of article 7 of the EEC Treaty, he was entitled to the same protection as a German national.

In Case C-326/92 questions had arisen during litigation between EMI Electrola GmbH, which held exclusive rights for the distribution in Germany of recordings of performances by Cliff Richard, a British singer, and the defendant company and its manager in relation to the distribution in Germany of phonograms containing recordings of performances given by Cliff Richard in Great Britain during 1958 and 1959.

On appeal, the *Bundesgerichtshof*, which was aware of the questions which had been submitted to the Court of Justice by the *Landgericht München*, expressed the view that copyright and related rights did not appear to it to fall within the scope of application of Community law and, more particularly of article 7 of the EEC Treaty.

In its judgment the European Court of Justice held as follows:

Scope of the questions

In proceedings under article 177 of the Treaty, the Court might not rule on the interpretation of national laws and regulations or on the conformity of such measures with Community law. Consequently, it could not interpret the provisions of the *UrhG*. The Court might only provide the national court with the criteria for interpretation based on Community law which would enable that court to solve the legal problem with which it was faced.

The questions referred concerned the first paragraph of article 7 of the Treaty which laid down the general principle of non-discrimination on the ground of nationality. That provision stated expressly that the prohibition of discrimination applied only within the scope of application of the Treaty.

Applicability of the EEC Treaty to copyright

It was first necessary to deal with the question whether copyright and related rights fell within the scope of the first paragraph of article 7 of the Treaty and whether the general principle of non-discrimination laid down by that paragraph was, consequently, applicable to those rights.

In the present state of Community law, and in the absence of Community rules for the harmonisation of national legislation, it was for the member states, subject to the observance of the relevant international conventions, to determine the conditions and detailed rules for the protection of literary and artistic property.

The specific subject-matter of those rights, as governed by national legislation, was to ensure the protection of moral and economic rights of their holders. The protection of moral rights enabled authors and artists to prevent any distortion, mutilation or other changes to a work which might be detrimental to their honour or their reputation.

Copyright and related rights also had economic characteristics in as much as they provided for the possibility of the right to exploit commercially the marketing of the protected work, particularly in the form of licences granted in return for payment of royalties.

Like other industrial or commercial property rights, exclusive rights conferred by literary and artistic property were likely to affect trade in goods and services as well as competitive relationships within the Community. For that reason those rights, although governed by national legislation, were subject to the requirements of the Treaty and therefore fell within its scope.

It followed that copyright and related rights, which, because of their effect on intra-Community trade in goods and services, fell within the scope of application of the Treaty, were necessarily subject to the general principle of non-discrimination laid down in the first paragraph of article 7 of the Treaty, without it being necessary to make specific references to articles 30, 36, 59 and 66 of the Treaty.

Discrimination

It was then necessary to consider whether the first paragraph of article 7 of the Treaty prohibited the legislation of a member state from preventing authors and performing artists of other member states from exercising the right, which was granted by the same legislation to nationals, to prohibit the distribution within the national territory of a phonogram manufactured without their consent where the performance had been give outside the member state.

Imtrat and Patricia maintained that the difference between German nationals and nationals of other member states which had arisen in the two cases was objectively justified by the disparities between national legislation in a matter of copyright and by the fact that not all of the member states had yet accepted the Rome Convention of October 26, 1961 for the Protection of Performers, Producers of Phonograms and Broadcasting Organisations.

It was common ground that article 7 was not concerned with any disparities in treatment or the distortions which might result, for the persons and undertaking subject to the jurisdiction of the Community, from divergences existing between the laws of the various member states, so long as the latter affected all persons subject to them, in accordance with objective criteria and without regard to their nationality.

Therefore neither the disparities between national legislation on the protection of copyright and related rights, nor the fact that not all of the member states had yet ratified the Rome Convention could justify an infringement of the principle of non-discrimination laid down by the first paragraph of article 7 of the Treaty.

By prohibiting any discrimination on the ground of nationality, article 7 required that persons in a situation governed by Community law be placed on a completely equal footing with nationals of a member state. In so far as that principle was applicable it therefore precluded a member state from making the grant of an exclusive right subject to a condition of being a national of that state.

Effects of article 7(1)

Finally it was necessary to consider whether the first paragraph of article 7 of the Treaty might be relied upon directly before a national court by an author or performer from another member state, or their successors in title, in order to request the benefit of protection granted to nationals.

The right to equal treatment laid down by the first paragraph of article 7 of the Treaty was conferred directly by Community law. That right might, therefore, be relied upon before a national court in order to ask it to set aside any discriminatory provisions of a national law which refused nationals of other member states the protection which they granted to nationals.

On those grounds, the Court of Justice, ruled:

1 Copyright and related rights came within the scope of application of the Treaty within the meaning of the first paragraph of article 7; the general principle of non-discrimination laid down by that article was consequently applicable to those rights.

2 The first paragraph of article 7 of the Treaty was to be interpreted as preventing the legislation of a member state from excluding authors and performing artists of other member states, and their successors in title, from the right granted by the same legislation to nationals, to prohibit the distribution on national territory, of a phonogram manufactured without their consent, where the performance had been given outside the national territory.

3 The first paragraph of article 7 of the Treaty was to be interpreted as meaning that the principle of non-discrimination which it laid down might be directly relied upon before a national court by an author or artist of another member state, or by their successors in title, in order to claim the benefit of the protection granted to national authors and artists.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 071-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

FORMODE OFFICE FURNITURE LIMITED
Principal Trading Address: Unit 10 Britannia Estates, Leagrave Road Luton, Beds
Company Number 1186554
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named company will be held at Leda House, Station Road, Cambridge CB1 2RN on 6 December 1993 at 12.00 noon for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99 to 101 of the Insolvency Act 1986.
A list of names and addresses of the company's creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at Touche Ross & Co of Leda House, Station Road, Cambridge, CB1 2RN during the two business days preceding the above meeting.
Dated: 12 November 1993
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
R W Knapp Director

Gatwick Travel Limited T/A Gatwick Travel & Ski Limited
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named Company will be held at 25 New Street Square, London EC4A 3LN on 26 November 1993 at 10.00 am for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 to 101 of the said Act
Creditors wishing to vote at the Meeting must lodge their proxy, together with a full statement of account at the registered office - 25 New Street Square, London, EC4A 3LN not later than 12 noon on 25 November 1993
For the purposes of voting, a secured creditor is required (unless he surrenders his security) to lodge at 25 New Street Square, London, EC4A 3LN before the meeting, a statement giving particulars of his security, the date when it was given and the value at which it is assessed
Notice is further given that a list of the names and addresses of the Company's creditors may be inspected, free of charge, at 25 New Street Square, London, EC4A 3LN between 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. on the two business days preceding the date of the meeting stated above
BY Order of the Board
J M van der Merwe, Director.

Pursuant to Section 466 (1A) of The Insolvency Act 1986
Safe & Sound Fire Technology (London) Limited
WE, Lynn Gibson and Robert David Hewitt of Gibson Hewitt & Co, 6 Park Court, Pyrford Road, West Byfleet, Surrey, KT14 6SD
Hereby give notice that on the 11th day of November 1993 we were appointed administrative receivers of the above named company by Barclays Bank Plc under the terms of a debenture dated 27 November 1990 over the whole of the assets of the company
Dated 12th November 1993
L Gibson and R D Hewitt,
Joint Administrative Receivers

IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
MANOR of GROVES GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB LIMITED
("In Administration Receivership")
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a MEETING of the UNSECURED CREDITORS of the company will be held at Price Waterhouse, 10 Bricket Road, St Albans, Herts AL1 3JX on 26 November 1993 at 11.00 am for the purposes of receiving a report covering the background to and the progress of the receivership and the other matters stipulated by Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986.
Please note that a person is entitled to vote at the meeting only if the provisions of Rule 3.11(1) of the Insolvency Rules 1986 have been complied with, namely that,
(a) he has given to the administrative receiver, not later than 12.00 noon on 25 November 1993, details in writing of the debt he claims to be due to him from the company, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provision of Rule 3.11(2) - (7) and,
(b) there has been lodged with the administrative receiver any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf.
A secured creditor is entitled to vote only in respect of the balance (if any) of his debts after deducting the value of his security as estimated by him. Creditors who are wholly secured are not entitled to be represented or to vote
Dated the 10 November 1993
D M Ghosh FCA
Joint Administrative Receiver
Manor of Groves Golf and Country Club Limited

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF TCHIBO COFFEE INTERNATIONAL LTD
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
that a Petition was on the 4th day of November 1993 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the capital of the above named Company from £11,205,341 to £4,482,136.40
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, WC2A 2LL on Wednesday 1st December 1993.
ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same
Dated this 15th day of November 1993.
SALLOOKS of 89 Quarry Street, Guildford, GU1 3UD
Solicitors for the above-named Company

J.F CHESTER (ROUGHTON) LIMITED
Company No 520198
BEECHAM - FSM LIMITED
Company No: 377948
MACLEANS LIMITED
Company No: 304588
SMITHKLINE BEECHAM - HFD LIMITED
Company No: 382762
SMITHKLINE BEECHAM B LIMITED
Company No:50220
BEECHAM INDUSTRIES LIMITED
Company No: 759074
BEECHAM FRAGRANCES LIMITED
Company No: 1464872
BEECHAM COSMETICS LIMITED
Company No: 1513007
BEECHAM PENSION NOMINEES LIMITED
Company No: 602809
BENCARD PHARMACEUTICALS LIMITED
Company No. 280419
BETTER PRODUCTS LIMITED
Company No: 991552
SMITH KLINE & FRENCH OF IRAN LIMITED
Company No. 1270849
(ALL IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS OF THE ABOVE COMPANIES
On 18 November 1993 the above named companies were placed in members' voluntary liquidation and Anthony Victor Lomas of Price Waterhouse, No.1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL was appointed liquidator by the shareholders.
The liquidator gives notice pursuant to Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the company must send details, by the 18th December 1993, of any claim against the company to the liquidator, at the above address by 14 December 1993 which is the last day for proving claims. The liquidator also gives notice that he will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution.
The company is able to pay all known creditors in full.
18 November 1993
Anthony Victor Lomas.
Liquidator

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
MARLINGWORTH LIMITED
Trading Name. P.C.I
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
Pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held on 29th November 1993 at The Old Bakery, Lower Gower Road, Royston, Herts at 12.00 noon for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 et seq of the said Act.
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington, FIPA of 4, Charterhouse Square, London EC1M 6EN is appointed to act as the qualified Insolvency Practitioner pursuant to Section 98(2)(a) of the said Act who will furnish Creditors with such information as they may require.
DATED this 10th day of November 1993.
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
V I BROWNE, DIRECTOR.

NO: 009176 of 1993
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF VERITY GROUP PLC
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 21st October 1993 presented to Her Majesty's Court of Justice for the confirmation of the cancellation of the Share Premium account of the above-named company standing in the sum of £5,142,625.
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said petition is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on Wednesday the 1st day of December 1993.
ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an order of the confirmation of the said cancellation of the Share Premium Account should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
DATED this 19th day of November 1993.
Davies Arnold Cooper
6-8 Bouverie Street
London EC4Y 8DD
Ref. 3581 Tel: 071 936 2222
Fax. 071 936 2020
Solicitors for the above named Company

PUBLIC NOTICES

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
Prince Consort Road
South Kensington
LONDON SW7 2BS
NOTICE is hereby given that the ONE HUNDRED AND NINETH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Corporation will be held at the College on Monday 15 December 1993 at 3.45 pm to receive a Report and Statement of Accounts from the Council and to transact other business.
Any Member wishing to attend as a Graduate or Donor should apply by 30 November 1993 to The Clerk at the above address, furnishing details of his/her claim to membership, so that the necessary security and voting authorities may be issued.
DATED 15 November 1993
W M Morgan
Clerk to the Council

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity People's Trust for Endangered Species
The Commissioners propose to make an Order appointing an additional Trustee of this charity. Copies of the draft Order can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St Alban's House, 57/60 Haymarket, London, SW1Y 4QX, quoting reference BDT - 274306A/1 - CD (41 files). Objections and suggestions can be sent within one month from today.

RAYMOND ARTHUR ERNEST FRANK BRANT
THE ABOVE NAMED
who latterly resided in Whilburn, West Lothian DIED ON 25TH FEBRUARY 1993. Would any relative, or persons knowing the whereabouts of such relatives KINDLY CONTACT MESSRS SNEDDONS, S S C. SOLICITORS, CLYDESDALE BANK CHAMBERS, 16 EAST MAIN STREET, WHITBURN, WEST LOTHIAN, EH47 0RY. Tel 0501 740546 (ref GTB)

CONTRACTS & TENDERS

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
SUPPLY OF ELECTRICITY
Applications are invited for the supply of electricity for the contract duration of 1 April, 1994 to 31 March, 1996.
(i) 1.46 mw LOAD to County Hall in Preston, Lancashire.
(ii) 100 kw PLUS LOAD to Lancashire County Council buildings.
Applications for tender documents should be made in writing to: Energy Management Group, Property Services Department, PO Box 26, County Hall, Preston, Lancashire, PR1 8RE.
The closing date for the receipt of tenders to the Chief Executive/Clerk will be not later than 10.30 am on
(i) Tuesday, 25 January, 1994 and
(ii) Friday, 17 December, 1993.

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هكذا من الأصل

Windsor Park passion play with miraculous conclusion


Charlton: apology



Simon Barnes on a World Cup match in Belfast that was memorable for being a lot like any other game of football

For once the gods of chance decided to smile on this troubled island and they presented us with that impossible thing, a football result that pleases everybody. Ireland drew with itself: North 1, Republic 1.

Better than that, we are left with only the football to talk about. This was always going to be a fraught and desperate encounter — but it was only in the comfortable, footballing sense of the words that the cliché lived.

Football was not, thank God, a matter of life and death in Belfast this week. It was simply a football match, a tense and passionate one, but football, cup football especially, is supposed to be like that.

The result allows the Republic to take part in the World Cup finals and that will make the organisers in the United States almost as happy as the Irish themselves. They will be one of the competition's bigger draws. Boston, long time roosting ground for wild geese, will be preparing for a serious party. The Irish will presumably have their base there next summer.

But the boys from Northern Ireland had the pleasures of a draw, and a narrowly missed win, against the favoured side. There was no humiliation, like the one they suffered in Dublin in March, when they lost 3-0. They did not win, but there was no surrender.

No surrender. This, of course is one of the phrases that haunts this city. It was used to decorate the national anthem at the match: "God save our queen — no surrender — send her victorious . . ."

The seating arrangements made for an interesting night of anthropology, or at least ethology. A band of *ultra* Northern Ireland supporters were tactfully positioned in front of the press-box, clad in the red, white and blue that signified their loyalty to, among other things, Linfield Football Club.

It was a fine opportunity to learn the words of the loyalist anthem *The Sash My Father Wore*, sung with fervour every five minutes. The Northern Ireland goal prompted them to turn on the press-box: a brief nightmare of 300 grinning faces and 1,200 waggling, sky-pointing fingers.

It was inevitable that the event should carry the seeds of nastiness but they never germinated. There was never much more than a lot of noise. McLoughlin's equalising goal restored peace and that is a commodity beyond price here, better even than a ticket to Boston.

There had been bad vibes all over. Billy Bingham's celebration of the Northern Ireland goal was a piece of unworthy taunting and after the match, Jack Charlton, the Republic's manager, made a public apology for remarks — he refused to elaborate — he had addressed to Bingham, his opposite number, on the whistle.

We are used to Charlton in the role of amiable eccentric. He is always a man capable of enjoying his football without taking the game at its own Shankley-esque valuation, a man whose laid-back qualities have catalysed the Republic and led to their success. But after the match he gave the lie to all that: he was a gaunt, stiff mass of unresolved tensions. "I haven't smiled since the match finished."

Dragging his limbs with incipient flu and hoarse from yelling, this articulate man gave a brief and barely coherent press conference. It was a shattering evening.

"I've never been so tense before a game," John Aldridge, the Republic striker, said. "I think it showed." It is odd that in football, two sides can go at each other with the most ferocious commitment and desire and produce a tedious spectacle.

In the first 45 minutes, players sought a pattern and rhythm and failed to find it. But in the second half, when tensions were still greater, the sides went for each other again and the match overflowed with purpose.

In the end, it was an undignified way to qualify: for the Republic needed Spain's win over Denmark to see them through. Really, it is easier to skim through Stephen Hawking and to understand all about quarks and black holes than it is to understand a World Cup qualifying group table one round before completion.

But dignity be damned: there is only one team from the islands off the north-west coast of Europe that is going to the World Cup finals and they will be wearing green shirts, not red white and blue.

Qualification is a kind of miracle, but then sport's daily currency is the miraculous. Every line of small type in the results section of this newspapaer is a miracle for somebody. People turn to sport for the impossible, the miraculous.

There is always the danger of getting sport into a false perspective: the famous headline that called England's 1973 failure The End of the World, for example. But there is no thought of doing that here in Belfast. There was a miracle in Belfast on Wednesday but it had nothing to do with football.

Or rather it did. We had a football match between Northern Ireland and the Republic and nobody died. It was just a football match. It took place amid rising talk of the impossible. The politicians are still talking hard about talking, they have dared to use the unthinkable word, peace. And we had a football match and nothing happened bar a couple of goals, a few bad songs and a couple of school-dinner insults. Really quite a lot like any other football match. A miracle, indeed.

Charlton to look for new players to enhance squad

By Peter Ball

ALAN McLoughlin's goal, 12 minutes from time in Belfast on Wednesday night, spared Jack Charlton, the Ireland manager, a day, yesterday, considering his future. Instead, he is considering the future of his players, with some likely to find that getting Ireland to the World Cup finals in the United States next year does not guarantee them a place on the plane.

"One or two may be past their sell-by date," Charlton said yesterday, dismissing suggestions that he would stick by his present squad as a reward for their success in the qualifying group. "The rewards for the lads who have taken us there will be their reward," he added, referring to the IrÉ1.5 million (£1.42 million) paid by the Football Association of Ireland and the sponsors, Opel, to the squad for qualifying.

"You pick your best 22 at the time to go to the USA, and that might not be the 22 at the moment," Charlton said.

This sounds harsh, but it reflects life in professional sport and Charlton made no apologies, revealing that, had Ireland failed, he would have discussed resigning with Irish officials. McLoughlin's strike removed the need for that. "Your life can change in 12 minutes," Charlton reflected as Dublin woke up with a collective hangover after a another mass celebration, this one tinged with relief.

Behind the relief is the suspicion that Ireland's performances this season reveal a side which has already peaked. The Northern Ireland team that went to Mexico in 1986 is an obvious parallel, and Charlton's remarks indicate he will move to halt any slide and look at players before Ireland's next fixture, against Norway in March.

That match, and those against Holland, Colombia and Germany, will offer him his chance to test new players, and he intends to take it. "We need about another four or five players to go with us to America," he said.

"I need to have a look at players and make my mind up about them, and then get them in and see what they can do. Our team is in an ever-changing situation. We can't come back from a World Cup and start with a completely different team like England, because we haven't got the number of players to do that.

"Our players have done remarkably well, but there are one or two places where we are looking a bit thin now."

At least McLoughlin seems certain to have booked his place on the trip with his goal soon after his appearance as a substitute. "That justifies his existence in the squad for the last two years," Charlton said.

For some of the other fringe players, there is less encouragement, but for the moment Charlton's choices appear limited. Gary Kelly, of Leeds United, was in the squad for this match and Willie Boland has been catching the eye for Coventry City recently. Both are likely to get an early opportunity.

Mark Kennedy, at Millwall, Alan Moore, at Middlesbrough, and Stephen Carr and Turner, at Tottenham Hotspur, are highly promising, but this is clearly one tournament too soon, and Charlton is likely to look at experienced players with more tenuous Irish links this time.

With John Aldridge now 34 and Alan Kelly out of the Sheffield United side, a goalkeeper and a forward are priorities and Mark Beeney, the Leeds goalkeeper, and two goalscorers, John Durnin, of Portsmouth and Mark Stein, of Chelsea, may be invited to throw in their lot with Ireland.

Stein's brother, Brian, won one cap for England, against France in 1984, and if Mark decides to play for Ireland — he has an Irish mother — the jibes of Billy Bingham about mercenaries may get another airing.

It is often said that the English do not understand the Irish. It is clear that the southern Irish do not understand the North, and surprise and shock at their reception. The Northern Irish determination to thwart them if possible was a theme running through much of the post-match talk. There will, though, be other tensions in America, when 20,000 Irish fans are expected to travel.

WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS

Automatic

United States (as hosts)
Germany (as defending champions).

Europe

First two in each group qualify

Group one

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Italy	10	7	3	1	22	7	16
Switzerland	10	6	3	1	23	6	15
Portugal	10	6	2	2	18	5	14
Scotland	10	4	3	3	14	13	11
Malta	10	1	1	8	3	23	3
Estonia	10	0	1	9	1	27	1

Group two

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Norway	10	7	2	1	25	5	16
Holland	10	6	3	1	29	8	15
England	10	5	3	2	26	9	13
Poland	10	3	2	5	10	14	8
Turkey	10	3	1	6	11	19	7
San Marino	10	0	1	9	2	46	1

Group three

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Spain	12	8	3	1	27	4	19
Ireland	12	7	4	1	19	6	18
Denmark	12	7	4	1	15	2	18
N Ireland	12	5	3	4	14	13	13
Lithuania	12	2	3	7	8	21	7
Latvia	12	0	5	7	4	21	5
Albania	12	1	2	9	6	26	4

Group four

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Romania	10	7	1	2	29	12	15
Belgium	10	7	1	2	16	5	15
RCS	10	4	5	1	21	9	13
Wales	10	5	2	3	19	12	12
Cyprus	10	2	1	7	8	18	5
Faeroe Is	10	0	0	10	1	38	0

Group five

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Greece	8	6	2	0	10	2	14
Russia	8	5	2	1	15	4	12
Iceland	8	3	2	3	7	6	8
Hungary	8	2	1	5	6	11	5
Luxembourg	8	0	1	7	2	17	1

Group six

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sweden	10	6	3	1	19	8	15
Bulgaria	10	6	2	2	19	10	14
France	10	6	1	3	17	10	13
Austria	10	3	2	5	15	16	8
Finland	10	2	1	7	9	18	5
Israel	10	1	3	6	10	27	5

Concacaf

Mexico

South America

Colombia, Argentina (after play-off with Australia), Brazil, Bolivia.

Africa

Nigeria, Morocco, Cameroon.

Asia

South Korea, Saudi Arabia.

France share troubled waters

The French and English may not be able to dig a tunnel together but in football they share, for the second successive big tournament, the same boat.

Even more of a shock than the elimination of England from the World Cup, was the loss to the final tournament of France. With two home games, against Israel and Bulgaria to play, Eric Cantona and company needed but a single point to confirm their place. They led in both, but lost both.

Against the Israelis it appeared arrogance; against Bulgaria in Paris on Wednesday night they were caught by a sucker punch ten seconds from time. Those miniscule seconds. England cannot control them in the beginning, the French run out of resistance in the end.

Before Bulgaria could even contemplate victory in Parc des Princes, Cantona had celebrated his reprieve from a total Uefa ban by sweeping in his sixth goal of the qualifiers, from a downward header by his partner, Jean-Pierre Papin.

How Eric crowed: he leapt on to the advertising board, he held aloft his arms, he invited the faithful to join in his celebration. With near disbelief the French conceded an equaliser to the head of Emil Kostadinov. No matter, their nerve was holding, or so they thought.

The Bulgars suspected otherwise. They spoke afterwards of seeing fear in the French eyes, and fear was converted to execution by a brilliant winning goal.

Hristo Stoikhov, the mercurial striker, had the ball at his command near the centre circle. Looking up, he spotted Kostadinov moving towards the French penalty box. A 50-yard pass delivered the ball over the shoulder of Kostadinov and he, with sublime control on his right thigh, took another swift stride before unleashing an unstoppable shot from an acute angle 15 yards out.

So the French, like the English, lose without recognising the quality of their victors. One immediate repercussion is that Franck Sauzee, a midfielder with a marvellously expressive left foot, has retired from the international stage at the age of 28.

So the French, like the English, will be hosts to one of the major events of the Nineties — in their case the 1998 World Cup — without proving capable of reaching next summer's finale in the United States. But these tournaments, and qualifying for them, are said to go in cycles. At least Italy always get there, and they were back to their traditional ways, stealing a single goal and making that suffice. There was a suspicion of offside when the two Baggios — Roberto and Dino — combined seven minutes from time to defeat Portugal.

Again, though, the all-seeing eye of television showed that the final pass from Roberto took a deflection off a desperate Portuguese defender, and so the lesser-known Dino was played onside for his goal.

From Milan to Seville. It takes a brave referee to send off the Spanish goalkeeper in that intimidating cauldron. But the Greek official showed that courage in only the second minute, delivering the red card when Zubizarreta brought down his Barcelona club-mate, Brian Laudrup.

Surely this would effectively put Denmark into the finals? Not so. Jose Baquero, a diminutive player at 5ft 8in, if that, somehow managed at the vital moment to unhinge the 6ft 4in Peter Schmeichel. The referee saw nothing untoward and Hierro was able to score the winner 18 minutes into the second half.

That triggered the luck of the Irish. For had Denmark so much as drawn, Jack Charlton's team would have completed the British and Irish vacuum in world football.

Charlton is one of two English managers who have made it among the final 24. The other, Roy Hodgson, coaches the national team of Switzerland who, by dint of four goals against Estonia, qualified easily.

The Swiss were full value for their qualification, and they had been more than a thorn in the Italian flesh in their qualifying group. With the power in the air of Adrian Knup and the educated feet of Stephane Chapuisat, the Switzerland team has a kind of English striking partnership. Three of their four goals came through aerial bombardment against the Estonians.

On the other side of the world, Argentina, finalists in the last two World Cups, scraped through in their play-off against Australia.

Some 60,000 were in the River Plate — they had come to reconfirm the resurrection of Maradona. He gave them spasms of joy, but the Australians, with their athletic game and their never-say-die spirit, lived with the Argentines in all but fortune.

On the hour, around the time England's plane was landing at Luton, a cross from Gabriel Batistuda struck the outstretched boot of Alex Tobin and looped over the reserve Australian goalkeeper, standing in for the injured Mark Bosnich. Maradona, the reborn hero, stood with his head of state and declared: "This is for the people; they deserve it."


Cantona looks in vain for divine intervention after France's World Cup exit. Photograph: Gerard Julien

Beaujolais nouveau comforts despondent France

From Sean Mac Carthaigh in Paris

HOURS after the match, it was as if a political assassination had occurred; the TV France 2 presenters were having difficulty dealing with reality. "We probably won't find out what really happened until tomorrow," the sports commentator explained to the grief-stricken newscaster.

Yesterday the main television news began without comment but with slow-motion footage of Emil Kostadinov, of Bulgaria, poking the ball past the hapless French goalkeeper. Jean-Pierre Pernaut, the Gallic equivalent of Peter Sissons, looked up in disbelief when the tape was finished. Then suddenly, like a magician with a rabbit, he whipped out a bottle of Beaujolais nouveau: "Luckily, we have this to console ourselves!"

The newspapers also relegated other stories to the second division. "Useless!" screamed *France-Soir*. "A terrible nightmare," *Le Parisien* said. "Adieu, America," bid *Le Figaro*. *Libération* ran a philosophical banner: "France qualifies for 1998".

L'Équipe, the French paper devoted entirely to sport, featured a photograph covering the entire front page of Eric Cantona scoring his goal But across the top was the word "unqualifiable".

The pundits appeared but they barely had the heart to analyse the match. Besides, how could one apply logic or fairness to what happened: 15 seconds from the end France's place in the World Cup had been snatched by a winning goal by a team nobody rated highly. Cantona, widely quoted, described it as the worst moment in his life.

Everybody talked of a crisis in French football, marking off each new low. Not qualifying for Italy '90, being beaten by Israel, and finally Bulgaria. And then there was the French league, with its bribery scandals and showdowns with Fifa. They were also quick to point out that the 1998 World Cup will be held in France, which means that the national team automatically qualifies.

Bingham leaves rich legacy to successor

By Peter Ball

AFTER 17 distinguished years, Billy Bingham leaves his successor as manager of Northern Ireland with a sizable inheritance. A draw with the superior forces of the Republic, like so many of Bingham's previous 116 matches, revealed on Wednesday night the high morale, organisation and determination of a squad which has papered over any shortfall in talent.

"I think I am going out at the right time," Bingham said. "It has been a long road, a long chapter in my life, and I've enjoyed every second of it, but I don't need any more management at that level, where every match is vital, at 62."

With continuity one of the most important factors in Bingham's success, the most likely successor is his assistant, Jimmy Nicholl, the former Manchester United and Rangers full back. Nicholl was a member of his first and most successful side in the early Eighties.

Nicholl is keen to do the job, but he is having a successful time in his first managerial appointment, with Raith Rovers, and it is by no means certain that the terms would be acceptable. The Irish Football Association (IFA) is believed to want to make a full-time appointment to cover coaching as well as the management of the senior team.

Both Bryan Hamilton and George Best have thrown their hats into the ring, but if Nicholl is not appointed the IFA's options look restricted. Martin O'Neill, once Bingham's captain, would be an outstanding alternative, but like Nicholl he would almost certainly prefer to take the job on a part-time basis.

Whoever gets the job will have a much healthier outlook than appeared likely earlier this year. Northern Ireland played what little football there was in a frantic first half on Wednesday with Magilton suggesting that he could develop into an international midfield player of high quality. If the new manager can continue to channel the desire they will remain a very difficult team to beat, as Ireland discovered.

Yorath delivers damning verdict

By Keith Pike

TERRY Yorath yesterday put aside his personal anguish to deliver a damning indictment of the state of British football. It could prove to be one his last acts as manager of Wales. If so, it was a powerful parting shot.

Yorath, unable to hide his disappointment either at Wales's elimination from the World Cup at Romania's hands at Cardiff Arms Park on Wednesday, or the failure of the Football Association of Wales (FAW) to discuss a new contract, described as "scandalous" the failure of any British team to qualify for the finals. Greed, he said, was to blame.

"We had the chance a few years ago to reduce the Premier League to 16 or 18 teams, and it was decided not to," Yorath said. "They decided instead to give power to the club chairmen. Had the league been reduced and the players asked to play fewer games, it would have given international teams more of a chance to qualify.

"What we have got instead is a Thatcherite Premier League, where the rich get richer and the poor get poorer. They are breeding only greed, and I am afraid we have been found out."

Yorath is convinced that had Paul Bodin not hit the crossbar with a 61st-minute penalty six minutes after Saunders had equalised Hagi's first-half goal, Romania would have wilted, Raducioiu would not have secured Romania's 2-1 win and Wales, not Romania, would have gone on to qualify with Belgium from group four.

Yet even if they had done so, it would have only disguised the fact that British players have again had their technical deficiencies exposed. Yorath says that players here now rely almost completely on pace, passion and set-pieces. More worrying still, most of them do not want to improve. "While we try to provide the British public with the kind of football it wants, teams like Romania will stay technically superior to us."

It was a theme taken up by Raducioiu. "Your players play at unbelievable speed but forget the basics of controlling and passing," the Milan striker said. "You play with one dimension, to get the ball upfield as quickly as possible, but sometimes the game demands patience, to move the ball sideways to create space."

Raducioiu said he would be recommending to his club that Manchester United are made a third offer, this time one they could not refuse, for Ryan Giggs. If he stays in England too long, he said, "his flair will be crushed by the sheer ferocity of the game".

Yorath's views on the decline of the national game may increase the likelihood of him accepting one of the three offers he has had to return to club management — one from Greece, one from Turkey, and one from a British club. The offer he wanted most of all, a new contract as Wales manager, has not yet been forthcoming. His present one expires at the end of next month.


Yorath: disappointed

"I love my job and I want to see it through, but I have got a wife and kid and a house in Leeds on which I have to pay a mortgage," Yorath said. "If an offer came of a job which I thought was right for me, I would have to take it."

Yorath believes he is the best person for the job and he has the unequivocal support of his players. "I thought it should have been sorted out by now," he said. "I would have loved somebody from the FAW to have approached me, but it has not happened."

Alun Evans, secretary of the FAW, said later that a meeting with Yorath would be arranged next week. "We will be sorting out what terms we can afford and obviously we will be asking Terry what terms he would want," Evans said. "All along we have made it quite clear what the situation was and what the due processes are."

Four held, page 4

Hosts perplexed by surprise finalists

From Ben Macintyre in New York

THE air of bafflement with which many Americans have observed the build-up to next year's World Cup finals has been deepened further by the realisation that several of the most enthusiastic football-playing countries will not be participating.

The elimination of England, "the acknowledged birthplace of the sport" in the words of the *New York Times*, is particularly perplexing for the host country, which had been preparing for an invasion of football hooligans from Britain since the decision was made to hold the World Cup in the United States.

American sports commentators were torn yesterday between relief that "the problem of English hooliganism disappeared before it could cross the Atlantic" and concern that, with France (twice semi-finalists) and Denmark (European champions) also failing to qualify, the tournament may fail to gain the interest of the American public. "It's a mixed situation," Alan Rothenberg, president of World Cup organising committee, said.

Despite an already deafening media fanfare, the organisers have not found it easy to stir up domestic interest in a country where football remains a poor cousin in popularity to American football, baseball and basketball.

Italy's qualification came as a profound relief to the organisers, given the country's vast Italian-American population. "Our overall economic status remains as valid as it ever was," said Rothenberg after watching the Italy-Portugal match. Similarly, had Argentina not managed to squeeze in with a 1-0 win over Australia, the interest of many American Hispanics would have diminished.

With England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland all eliminated, Americans who adhere to the notion of a "special relationship" have been left wondering who to root for. Saudi Arabia, Greece and Nigeria, for example, who will compete for the first time, are countries which most Americans associate with holiday tours or complicated politics, rather than sport.

Former world No 1 is adopting novel approach on court

Courier's attitude shrieks of disinterest

FROM STUART JONES, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT IN FRANKFURT

JIM Courier's behaviour here at the ATP world championship has been bizarre. If his play in his first match against Michael Chang was uncharacteristically poor, his attitude in his second, against Andrei Medvedev, was so curious that his sanity was brought into question.

In the early hours of yesterday morning, as he attempted vainly to stay in contention for a place in the semi-finals, he was seen nonchalantly reading a novel during the changeovers. It was Armistead Maupin's *Maybe The Moon*, the tale of a dwarf's adventures in Hollywood.

His explanation was an insult to representatives of the media. Asked to describe his state of mind, he replied: "I've never been more focused or concentrated. This is the best I've ever been and, if I can keep this up, I'll be in good shape come the week's end."

Good shape? If he had converted any one of the four match points he held against Medvedev, he might have been. As it is, the second seed and the runner-up for the last two years has been prematurely eliminated with only a meaningless group match against Michael Stich to complete.

Courier is plainly not in good shape and he would have profited from disclosing the reasons for his strange approach rather than leaving it so open to interpretation by those watching him. Why, for instance, did he pretend to have left behind at his hotel the cap with which he has long been synonymous?

He could be accused of treating the championship with undisguised contempt. Against Chang, he yielded a set 6-0 for the first time since the 1991 US Open final. In losing to Medvedev 6-3, 1-6, 7-6, he suffered his fourth successive defeat, a fate which has never before befallen him in his career.

He makes no secret of his feelings about the Grand Slam Cup, an even more rewarding tournament being held in Munich next month. He dismisses it as "a large financial exhibition which counts for nothing".

Although he would collected $250,000 (about £169,000) before a ball is struck, he will not be taking part.

Since Courier is renowned more for his single-minded application than for natural talent, it defies belief that he could be so lacking in professionalism. More plausibly, he has acknowledged that he must change his habits if he is ever to depose his former ally, Pete Sampras, as the worl's No 1.

The discarding of the cap, the inspection of the book and the smiles exchanged with spectators may be indications of his new methods.

The player who once ruled the world through monastic dedication seems to have chosen to loosen the restrictions which he used to impose on himself.

Goran Ivanisevic has no need to relax his discipline. His serve encapsulates his uncomplicated nature.

From a wide and ungainly stance, the long-legged Croat throws the ball up with seeming indifference and smacks it uncompromisingly as hard as he can before it begins to descend. He is one of the most formidable players in the world when the weapon is working efficiently. It has been since the US Open and, although he opened by being beaten by Sampras, he overcame Sergi Bruguera, the fourth seed, 6-4, 7-6 in only 71 minutes.

In spite of complaining of dizziness and difficulty in breathing, Ivanesevic recovered with the assistance of vitamins and "something that smells bad but clears your nose. I was feeling not so great, so I had to play pretty fast. But I think I played a good match, because he didn't play bad at all."

"I started to feel very dizzy. Like my heart was going pretty fast. I couldn't breathe and I didn't know what was happening. Then whole parts of my body were really slow, like dead. They gave me something to drink and that helped me a little bit. I don't know what it was."

Ivanesevic was asked whether he would ever contemplate reading a book during changeovers.

"No," he said. "I would rather look at something more interesting like newspapers."

PETER MUELLER



Courier relaxes with a good book during his losing match with Medvedev

RESULTS: Arthur Ashe group: G Ivanisevic (Cro) bt S Bruguera (Spl, 6-4, 7-6. Stan Smith group: M Stich (Ger) bt M Chang (US), 4-6, 7-6, 6-2; A Medvedev (Ukr) bt J Courier (US), 6-3, 1-6, 7-6.

McColgan schedule still gives cause for concern

BY DAVID POWELL ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

CHILDLINE, it was announced yesterday, is to be an official charity of the 1994 NutraSweet London Marathon. The presence of Liz McColgan in London to help with the launch begged the question of whether an athletes' helpline might not be a bad idea.

McColgan put up her defences to suggestions that, at 29, she is finished as an international force. She even suggested that her best years are ahead of her. She may believe it, but should we?

This past year McColgan has been an athlete in need of help. It has been the worst period of her competitive life, injury following disappointing runs in the world cross-country championships and London Marathon.

Her back and hamstring trouble prevented her defending her 10,000 metres and half-marathon world titles. Having dropped the coaching services of her husband, Peter, she has teamed with Kim McDonald, Peter Elliott's adviser. McDonald knows the fault. McColgan admits it, but whether she can bring herself not to overdo her running seems doubtful from her comments yesterday. "I just need to be a bit wiser and respect my body," McColgan said. "You need recovery phases and, under Kim's guidance, that will happen."

Which would have sounded promising had McColgan not said she planned to race in the world cross-country in March, the London Marathon in April, a fast 10,000 metres in July, the European championships in August and in the Commonwealth Games soon afterwards — the 10,000 metres and possibly the 3,000. Her training would be "harder than ever".

The body she has undertaken to respect was in its fourth day of post-injury running "after doing nothing for six weeks" when it was put through a hard three miles at 5min 15sec milling. These things do not speak of a woman won over to the idea of a more cautious approach.

It was that session which McColgan used to justify her assertion that she is undaunted by the Chinese and that she "will run better than before". It would have been comforting to hear a more substantial argument than merely a reference to three miles at 5:15. "As soon as I did that I knew I could come back stronger," she said.

We must hope McColgan is right because she is still the best Britain has, a spirited, resilient fighter. But to remain a rated athlete she must run well in the London Marathon when she may face at least one Chinese record-breaker.

"I am not daunted by that possibility," McColgan said. "They have set a standard for everyone else to follow."

So follow she will. If she does more than that, and leads across the line again at world level, it would be wonderful. Wonderful and surprising.

No pizza, but plastic crabs go down well

Pescara is an Ipswich-sized seaport on Italy's Adriatic coast, about 100 miles east of Rome. Southend-on-Sea is a down-market resort on the Thames estuary, five miles west of Shoeburyness. They are the sort of towns that become twinned when the borough engineer of one attends a Euro sewerage conference in the other and over-indulges on the after-dinner mints.

The towns are not twinned but on Tuesday, when the highest in the footballing world were starting to bite their nails and catch their breath in anticipation of the morrow, they met at Roots Hall for a game in group B of the Anglo-Italian Cup.

Pescara is a troubled club: relegated from *Serie A* last year, they began this season with a deficit of three points deducted for financial transgression; they currently occupy last place in *Serie B*, are on their third manager, fourth coach since July.

Southend are riding high in what was the second division of the Football League in old money; they are in good shape.

William Hill, the famous bookmaker and takeover candidate, offered Pescara at 4-1 — though only in multiple bets, minimum of three. I coupled them with Ascoli and Cosenza — teams I had not heard of, either — and went to the match.

The Fenchurch Street-Southend service occupies pole position on British Rail's composite timetable. Table 1 tells it all, except the discomfort, but gets you there. And with time to kill I did the sights: the Royals shopping centre, the pier and the walk along the deserted front which is studded with fish shops and amusement arcades beckoning non-existent trippers to the strains of *My Darling Clementine* played by a computer.

It was the tune that did it. I would like to recommend cracking crabs: a single game cost 20p, lasts one minute and involves picking up a cloth-bound mallet and pressing the start button, which causes plastic crabs to scurry at random across the board and scuttle back. It is your job to hit them.

Five of them bustled into sight on three levels. I gave one a really solid direct hit, got him again on the way back, hit another one also, then some more. When the bell rang my final score was 39. An illuminated sign told me DO BETTER; this was the sign just above CRABS WIN. I put in another coin, played the crabs the way one might play the xylophone, just tapping their backs, as in amateur boxing where contact on the target rather than force of the blow is paramount. I did better but had less fun.

Went to a Chinese restaurant for a very ordinary hot and sour soup, picked up a taxi at the Royal Fish Bar (our dear Queen was not there; I looked) and reached the ground in good time.

The press-box holds about a dozen hacks — two of whom were Pescarian. We smiled at them. They asked how to pronounce the names of the players in the Southend team: Jones, I mouthed. Hunt. Edwards. Payne. Otto.

Where from is Otto?

The Orient, I said, and the Pescarians were impressed, possibly because I had failed to mention the Leyton prefix. No one asked them how to pronounce the players of their team: it is not our way ... even though one of their men is called de Iuliis.

From the kick-off it was plain that William Hill had got it wrong. Pescara were the quality side and in Massara they have what may be the fastest striker in Europe. Compagna is a player of genuine ability and Sivebaek a good man to have on your side. They scored after nine minutes, then again after 19, should have been three up after half-an-hour.

What, asked an Italian hack, are the crowd singing when our man takes the goal kicks? Please translate. It was a tough question, one that would do nothing for the new *entente*, so I changed the subject, spoke of the weather which was clear and cold; mentioned the size of the crowd — 3,603.

He persisted. Literally. I explained, they are saying *e excrementa ole*, but they mean it kindly.

At half-time a man brought in hot mini sausage rolls and sandwiches made by one with a grudge against the fourth estate. In Pescara, I understand, you get chunks of hot pizza with glasses of Montepulciano red.

An Italian journalist arrived, explained that he had been held up in the tunnel. We congratulated him on getting through, having not realised that it was open. He meant the Dartford Tunnel. Fellow hacks decided that anyone arriving that late did not qualify for food ... and the game went on.

The referee did a good job and one of the linesmen, the one with the yellow flag, was called Signor Limone — but odds against Southend appearing at Wembley on March 19 are lengthening — as seem to be odds against "us" doing anything notable when we play "them".



FREUD ON FRIDAY

James brings quick gains

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL BY WALTER GAMMIE

WHEN Gary Simpson resigned as manager of Gainsborough Trinity, the club decided its next appointment should take a different tack. Now, three weeks into the job, Leighton James, the former Wales international, is looking to build upon the impact of his arrival at the Lincolnshire market town.

The crowd doubled for his first match in charge and rose to 828, the biggest at Northolme for five years, for his second, a 3-2 defeat by the Northern Premier League leaders, Frickley Athletic. A 1-1 draw at Barrow last Saturday has kept interest running high.

Frank Nicholson, the club secretary, said: "It's the first time we've gone for a big name as manager. We've always looked for managers and players in the South Yorkshire, Sheffield, Doncaster and Barnsley area and are breaking new ground as Leighton still lives in Burnley, 90 miles away.

"He doesn't stop talking football. His effect on the dressing-room was immediate. Players who you might have seen leaning over have been sitting with straight backs to listen to what he has to say."

James is working in the dispatch office in a local factory. "It's a change from the cosseted life of the professional footballer," he said. "It has helped me realise why the game is so important to the man on the terraces, to understand what a release from the working week he gets from his passion for the game."

James offset the loss of Richard Logan, the midfield player, to Huddersfield Town by bringing in three youngsters whom he knew when coach and caretaker manager at Bradford — Lee Margerison, who has had GM Vauxhall Conference experience with Slough, Scott Bairstow and Aidan Hart. Kerry Spray, 22, a goalkeeper, impressed in a friendly this week and has joined the squad.

At the start of the season, the Gainsborough supporters made it clear where their hearts lay when they outvoted a move by the supporters' club committee to sell Northolme, a ground left to the club by its former owner, Chas Chaldicott. "Apart from Boston and Barrow, who have come down from a higher league, the ground is as good as any in the league," James said.

Hesitant Streak

HEATH Streak, the Zimbabwe No 10, was run out off the last ball of the game to leave his team tied with India in the five-nation cricket tournament at Indore, India, yesterday. Streak hesitated before going for a second run and failed to beat Mohammed Azharuddin's throw to the wicket-keeper.

The sides scored 248 runs each — India for the loss of five wickets, Zimbabwe for all of theirs — but the rules state that only total runs matter.

Michael Kasprowicz, the Queensland fast bowler, has signed a one-year contract with Essex for next season. Kasprowicz, 21, was the second leading wicket-taker in Australian first-class cricket last season with 51 victims at 24.13 runs each. Essex have also signed Ronnie Irani, the Lancashire all-rounder, on a two-year contract.

INDIA

M Prabhakar st A Flower b Peall 91
W V Raman c Houghton b Brain 0
V G Kamble c Rennie b Peall 55
V K Yadav c G Flower b Peall 0
M A Azharuddin not out 54
S R Tendulkar c and b Streak 24
P K Amre not out 1
Extras (b 4, lb 8, nb 3, w 8) 23
Total (5 wkts, 50 overs) 248

Kapil Dev, A Kumble, J Srinath and R K Chauhan did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-6, 2-128, 3-128, 4-197, 5-239.

BOWLING: Brain 10-0-37-1, Streak 10-2-44-1; Rennie 9-0-36-0; Ali Shah 5-0-31-0; Peall 10-0-54-3; G Flower 6-0-34-0.

ZIMBABWE

A Flower st Yadav b Chauhan 56
G Flower b Prabhakar 2
A Campbell b Srinath 7
D Houghton lbw b Kapil 22
A Waller c Azharuddin b Tendulkar 32
G Whittall run out 33
Ali Shah c Chauhan b Srinath 37
S Peall c Yadav b Srinath 17
D Brain c Azharuddin b Prabhakar 1
H Streak run out 11
J Rennie not out 9
Extras (lb 10, w 11) 21
Total (50 overs) 248

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-10, 2-23, 3-67, 4-131, 5-143, 6-207, 7-208, 8-212, 9-237.

BOWLING: Prabhakar 10-0-41-2; Srinath 10-0-44-3, Kapil 6-0-31-1; Kumble 9-0-42-0; Tendulkar 8-0-48-1, Chauhan 8-0-32-1

Man of the match: M Prabhakar.

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FOR THE RECORD

FOOTBALL

SOUTH AMERICAN SUPERCUP: Final, first leg: Flamengo (Br) 2, São Paulo (Br) 2.

Late results on Wednesday

WORLD CUP: Qualifying matches. European zone: Group one: Italy 1, Portugal 0. Malta 0, Scotland 2; Switzerland 4, Estonia 0 (Italy and Switzerland qualify). Group two: Poland 1, Holland 3; San Marino 1, England 7 (Norway and Holland qualify). Group three: Northern Ireland 1, Ireland 1; Spain 1, Denmark 0 (Ireland and Spain qualify). Group four: Belgium 0, FCS 0; Wales 1, Romania 2 (Belgium and Romania qualify). Group five: Greece 1, Russia 0 (Greece and Russia qualify). Group six: France 1, Bulgaria 2 (Sweden and Bulgaria qualify). South America/Oceania play-off: Argentina 1, Australia 0 (Argentina win 2-1 on agg).

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Germany 2, Brazil 1.

EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP: Group two: San Marino 0, England 4.

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Ipswich 3, Millwall 0; Portsmouth 0, Southampton 0. League Cup: Cheltenham 1, Swansea 1, Hereford 3, Birmingham 3; Plymouth 2, Yeovil 0; Torquay 0, Bournemouth 1.

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Aston Villa 4, Notts County 0; Blackburn 4, Bolton 2; Manchester United 2, Coventry 1; Newcastle 0, Leeds 1; Nottingham Forest 2, Liverpool 2; Wolverhampton 1, Sheffield United 1, York 1, Derby 2. Second division: Blackpool 2, Scunthorpe 3, Grimsby 2, Middlesbrough 1, Huddersfield 3, Mansfield 3; Tranmere 5, Barnsley 2.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE CUP: First round: Warrington 2, Lancaster 4.

DIADORA LEAGUE CUP: Second round: Molesey 0, Staines 1; Sutton United 1, Bognor Regis 3.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Midland division: Clevedon 1, Forest Green 0.

BADMINTON

HONG KONG: Hong Kong Open: Men's Singles: First round: H Aris (Indo) bt I Mou-chou (Tai), 15-8, 15-6; Asef (Indo) bt D Bhattacharjee (India), 15-6, 15-8; K Hak Kyun (S Kor) bt Wu Wenkai (China), 15-10, 17-14; F Kok Keong (Mal) bt I Wijaja (Indo), 15-18, 15-3, 15-8; T Stuer Lauridsen (Den) bt S Kukiasemkij (Tha), 15-6, 15-11; G Chand (India) bt P Janti (Fin), 10-15, 15-8, 15-0; R Sidek (Mal) bt K Chai Joong (S Kor), 15-4, 15-7; Ge Cheng (China) bt Handrawan (Indo), 15-5, 14-17, 17-15; Dong Jiong (China) bt P Chen (Mal), 18-16, 15-5; H Susanto (Indo) bt N Chui Hwan (S Kor), 15-8, 15-9; P E Hoyer Larsen (Den) bt L Tiong Fang (Indo), 15-11, 15-10; W Wai-lap (HK) bt P Straight (Aus), 15-8, 15-7; Liu Jun (China) bt O Eng Hock (Mal), 15-4, 15-17, 15-8; L En-horng (Tai) bt Pan Tong (China), 12-15, 15-9, 15-9; A Wiranata (Indo) bt A Hamid Khan (Sing) 15-7, 15-8. Women's singles: First round: Ye Zhaoying (China) bt M Audina (Indo), 11-3, 11-8; C Hsiao-li (Tai) bt Fan Linhua (China), 3-11, 12-9, 11-6; H Mizui (Japan) bt L Wai Lang (Mal), 11-2, 11-3; Yang Song (Aus) bt J Hua-chang (Tai), 11-3, 11-3; Shen Luerjiang (China) bt S Jaroensiri (Tha), 11-7, 9-12, 11-8; R Kyung Min (S Kor) bt Lin Guizhen (China), 11-6, 8-11, 12-10; Maulawati (Indo) bt Z Abdullah (Sing), 4-11, 11-8, 11-5; C Yin-ser (HK) bt C Yee-lin (Tai), 8-11, 11-4, 12-11; C Oi-ni (HK) bt Z Sidek (Mal), 11-8, 11-2; Han Jingna (China) bt K J Hyun (S Kor), 12-10, 3-11, 11-6; P Plungvoch (Tha) bt L Djoelawadjaja (Indo), 11-7, 12-11; Lu Yuhong (China) bt C Nakayama (Japan), 11-3, 11-5

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA) Boston 105, New Jersey 100; Charlotte 130, Sacramento 113; Detroit 98, Orlando 92; Utah 115, Miami 111; Atlanta 92, Philadelphia 90; Washington 117, Milwaukee 104, San Antonio 95, New York 90

LEAGUE TROPHY: Guildford Kings 89, Hemel Royals 70; Sunderland Scorpions 72, Manchester Giants 105

BOXING

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey: IBF cruiserweight title contest (12 rnds): Al Cole (US, holder) bt Vincent Boulware (US), fifth rnd.

TOKYO: WBA Super-bantamweight title (12 rnds): Wilfredo Vazquez (P Rico) bt Hiroaki Yokota (Japan), pts

CYCLING

GHENT, Belgium: Six-day race (after second day): 1, B Risi and K Betschart (Switz), 135pts, 2, U Freuler and W Stutz (Switz), 105, 3, P Bincoletto and G Lombardi (It), 105 British: 10, A Doyle and S Wingrave, 43

GOLF

SYDNEY: Australian PGA championship: Leading first-round scores (Australia unless stated): 65: B Ogle 66: G Waite (NZ), J Woodland, 67: E Droop 68: C Parry, C Warren, G Sorhan, J Senior, J Clifford, C Moody (GB), J Morse (US), D Iwasaki-Smith, 69: I Baker-Finch, P McWhinney, R Green, R Farley, M Peterson, M Long (NZ), J Wade, L Trinder, T Gale British: 71: J Payne.

TOKYO: Dunlop Phoenix tournament: Leading first-round scores (Japanese unless stated): 65: T Watson (US) 66: M Okake, T Nakajima, D Frost (SA), S Simpson (US), 67: K Takahashi, M Kuramoto, B Lane (GB), W Andrade (US), F Couples (US), H Green (US), C Stadler (US) 68: P Michelson (US), E Els (SA) 69: D Iphil (US), B Watts (US), M Brooks (US). 71: J Sluman (US), L Mize (US), S Ballesteros (Sp), T Lehman (US), D Peoples (US), C Rocco (It) British: 73: A Lyle, I Woosnam.

LA MANGA, Spain: Johnnie Walker European Team championship: First day: Leading scores: 137: Scotland (R Wolstenholme 67, J Challas 70), 139: Iceland (U Jonsson 67, J Drummond 72); 140: Holland (J Sandon 69, J Woof 71) Other scores: 144: Wales (G Farr 69, M Benjamin 75); 146: England (L Fickling 71, J Langmoad 75) and Ireland (D Jones 72, G Loughrey 74).

LA QUINTA, California: PGA grand slam of golf: Final scores (after 36 holes): 145: G Norman (Aus), 71, 74 147: P Azinger (US), 75, 72, 148: B Langer (Ger), 78, 70; L Janzen (US), 74, 74

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Boston 4, Hartford 2; Montreal 3, Edmonton 1; New Jersey 4, Buffalo 0. NY Islanders 8, Ottawa 1, Dallas 4, Tampa Bay 3, Winnipeg 2, Detroit 1, Toronto 4, Anaheim 3

RUGBY LEAGUE

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: Leeds 18, St Helens 21.

RUGBY UNION

TOUR MATCH: Bedford 3, Auckland 51.

SNOOKER

PRESTON: Royal Liver Assurance UK championship: Second round (England unless stated): T Griffiths (Wales) bt C Edwards, 9-6; J White bt A Hicks, 9-3, J Wattana (Tha) bt P Ebdon, 9-4, S Davis bt M Hallett, 9-4, N Bond bt D Mountjoy (Wales), 9-5, M Clark bt M Price, 9-4; D Henry (Scot) bt D O'Kane (NZ), 9-4, A Jones bt S James, 9-3.

SQUASH RACKETS

KARACHI: World Open championship: First round: P Nicol (Scot) bt H Weiss (Ger), 15-8, 15-12, 15-12, M Z Gul (Pak) bt S Parke (Eng), 8-15, 17-15, 15-12, 15-12, P Whitlock (Eng) bt S Meads (Eng), 15-3, 15-6, 15-3, A Hands (Eng) bt A Hill (Aus), 13-15, 15-7, 15-9, 15-3; Jahangir Khan (Pak) bt F Usandizaga (Arg), 15-10, 5-15, 15-12, 15-9, D Meadings (Eng) bt M Mackorns (Scot), 15-6, 15-9, 15-7, T Nancarrow (Aus) bt D Ryan (Ire), 15-12, 12-15, 15-13, 15-8, 2 Johan (Pak) bt A Davies (Wales), 13-15, 15-13, 12-15, 15-3, 15-14

TENNIS

NEW YORK: Virginia Slims tournament: First round: S Graf (Ger) bt N Zvereva (Bela), 6-2, 6-4, C Martinez (Sp) bt M Maleeva-Fragniere (Switz), 7-5, 6-2, A Huber (Ger) bt M Maleeva (Bul), 6-4, 1-6, 7-6.

SWANSEA: LTA women's satellite tournament: Quarter-finals: S-A Sedaif (Dorset) bt S Pashemanko (Russ), 6-4, 6-3; J Dubcova (Cz) bt V Humphreys-Davies (Cambs), 5-7, 6-1, 6-4, N Egorova (Russ) bt J Ward (Durham and Cleveland), 7-5, 4-6, 6-2; G Coorengel (Holl) bt C Billingham (Oxon) 6-3, 6-1

WELLINGTON: ITF world youth cup: Boys semi-finals: France 3, Sweden 0. New Zealand 2, Korea 1. Consolation draw: Mexico 3, Austria 0. United States 2, Argentina 1. Czech-Slovak Republic 3, Morocco 0. Great Britain 2, Venezuela 1 (British names first): M Lee bt D Marra, 6-1, 6-2; J Delgado lost to K Ornilova, 7-5, 4-6, 7-5. Lee and A Cavenett bt D and Y Romero, 6-6, (ret); India 2, Bolivia 1. Spain 3, Indonesia 0. Girls semi-finals: United States 3, Hungary 0, Australia 2, Spain 1. Consolation draw: Czech-Slovak Republic 3, Russia 0; Holland 2, Brazil 1, South Africa 2, Argentina 1. France 3, Canada 0; New Zealand 3, Peru 0, Japan 2, Thailand 1

WEIGHTLIFTING

MELBOURNE: World championships: Men (91kg): 1, I Tchak-jarov (Bul), snatch 185.0, jerk 222.5, total 407.5kg; 2, K Kakhadzhe (Georgia), 180.0, 222.5, 402.5; 3, A Khrapatyi (Kazakhstan) 180.0, 215.0, 395.0. Women (75kg): 1, Hua Ju (China), 105.0, 125.0, 230.0kg; 2, Li Chang Ping (China), 92.5, 127.5, 220.0; 3, M Takacs (Hun), 92.5, 115.0, 207.5

YACHTING

WHITBREAD ROUND THE WORLD RACE (leading positions at 1400 GMT yesterday with miles to Fremantle, Australia): Maxi class: 1, NZ Endeavour (G Dalton, NZ) 6,314 miles; 2, Merit Cup (P Fehlmann, Switz), 6,341, 3, La Poste (D Malle, Fr) 6,587; 4, Uruguay Natural (G Vanzini, Uru), 6,596. Whitbread 60 class: equal 1, Immum Justitia (L Smee, Eur) Galicia 93 Pescanova (J de la Gandara, Sp) and Toluo (C Dixon, NZ) 6,327, 4, Weston (B Butterworth, US), 6,355; 5, Yamaha (R Field, NZ), 6,382; 6, Brookfield (G Marsh) in 6,395, 7, Dolphin & Youth Challenge (M Humphries, GB), 6,404; 8, Women's Challenge (D Riley, US), 6,470, 9, Hetman Sahaidachny (E Platon, Ukr), 6,483, 10, Odessa (A Verba, Ukr), 6,678

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FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

7.30 kick-off unless stated

Endsleigh Insurance League
Second division
Cambridge Utd v Cardiff (7.45) ....

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Shelbourne v Cobh Ramblers (7.45)

DIADORA LEAGUE: First division: Purfleet v Walton and Hersham.

RUGBY UNION

Club matches

Aye v Melrose, Boroughmuir v Heriot's FP; Clarkston v Gala, Edinburgh Wanderers v Stewart's Mel FP (7.0), Hillhead-Jordanhill v Glasgow High (7.0), Musselburgh v Watsonians (7.0)

RUGBY LEAGUE

Stones Bitter Championship

Bradford v Wigan ....

YOUNGERS ALLIANCE LEAGUE: First division: Featherstone Rovers v Hull, St Helens v Widnes. Second division: Leigh v Keighley

YOUNGERS YORKSHIRE SENIOR CUP FINAL: Ryedale York v Castleford

OTHER SPORT

SNOOKER: Royal Liver Assurance UK championship (Preston)

SWIMMING: British grand prix (Leicester)

TENNIS: LTA women's satellite tournament (Swansea)

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

Widespread options in growing world of sports betting

Richard Evans, racing correspondent, explains how an alternative concept is gaining in popularity with punters

Fancy backing a winner? Yes, of course, we all do. But what about backing a loser — and winning.

It may sound a contradiction in terms to the traditional gambler, but it is now possible for a punter to make money out of a strongly-backed favourite being beaten at the races, or from a dismal batting performance by England on the cricket field. Even defeat for Scotland against the All Blacks tomorrow could be turned into a money-spinner.

The concept of spread betting originated in the City in the Seventies when people were offered the chance to bet on the future performance of the stock market, gold and currencies.

Now it is gaining an increasing following among sports fans — particularly racing enthusiasts — who hanker for something different to fixed odds betting, where success hinges on selecting a horse to win a race.

The mechanics of spread betting may be complicated initially, but the philosophy is simple enough. The punter plays the role of bookmaker and backs his judgment against that of the market maker. Crucially, he can profit from a poor performance rather than having to gamble on a winning run.

Sporting Index was set up in April 1992 to cater exclusively for clients interested in spread betting on sports events, whereas the longer-established City Index and IG Index still concentrate mainly on the financial arena.

From an office near the Oval cricket ground, the fledgling company attracted 700 credit clients by the end of the year. Now it has 1,600 customers averaging 2,000 bets a week. On Wednesday night, the England-San Marino world cup match attracted more than 500 bets, bettered only by the wagering on the England-Holland clash.

However, racing remains Sporting Index's bread and butter, accounting for nearly half the total business — and offers a fascinating insight into how spread betting works.

The most popular bet is the favourites' index at the main race meetings of the day. The horse that starts favourite in each race is awarded 25 points for winning, ten for coming second or five for finishing third. On the rare occasions that favourites oblige throughout a six-race card, they would gain a total of 150 points.

The traders at Sporting Index, led by Richard Thomas, formerly of Corals, work out a quote or spread for the favourites, such as 77 to 80, which is their estimate of how many points the favourites will gain during the meeting.

If a backer believes the favourites will do better than the forecast, he opts to "buy" at 80 and should they end up with 90 points he would win ten times his stake.

Similarly, if a backer thinks most favourites will fare badly, he can "sell" at 77 and should he be proved right and they only collect a total of 70 points he wins seven times his stake.

For the professional backer, who wishes to be selective, the options are equally attractive. If he is convinced an even money chance in the third race will be beaten, and the favourites index stands at 70 to 73 before the race, he opts to sell at 70. If the backer is correct and the favourite is not placed, the favourites' index, which is amended after each race, will then stand at around 55-58. He then buys at 58 for the same stake and he has backed the equivalent of a 12-1 winner — by opposing an even money chance.

Whatever the sport, clients can "buy" or "sell", ie go high, or go low. In Wednesday's soccer match the total goals spread started at 5.8 to 6.2. Those who anticipated the eight-goal bonanza and bought made a profit.

Compton Hellyer, a keen racehorse owner and steward at Kempton and Warwick, is chairman and managing director of Sporting Index, and he explained: "We make a spread which gives our clients the opportunity to go one way or the other. The reason the favourites' index for racing is so popular is because traditional bookmakers make money out of favourites not winning. We are the only bookmakers that allow punters to make money out of favourites not winning.

"What we are giving people, whether it is with racing, cricket, golf, football or any other sport, is the opportunity to make money out of poor performances. That is the real attraction of spread betting."

Sounds simple, doesn't it. Not surprisingly, there is a downside. If a punter gets it wrong, he does not just lose his nominated stake, as he would in a betting shop wager. He loses a multiple of his stake. And in the case of cricket runs, one of the few markets where, for technical reasons, there is no stop limit on profits or losses, that can prove expensive.

However, provided a punter is cautious while he learns the ins and outs of spread betting, the risks are outweighed by the new avenues for wagering. Apart from spread betting being tax free to the punter, it is also regulated by the Securities and Futures Authority.

Pipe confident of better times ahead

By Richard Evans

AFTER enduring a miserable start to the season, Martin Pipe yesterday hinted that the worst may be over as he prepares to send out the first of his stable stars at Ascot today.

"Things have not been going right for us," the champion National Hunt trainer said from his Nicholashayne base. "But I am confident they will come right."

Pipe is languishing in eighth place in the trainers' table and has had only 24 winners compared to 41 at this stage last year. He failed to have a single runner at this week's two-day meeting at Haydock, his favourite track, and yesterday was another winnerless day.

Granville Again, the champion hurdler, appears this afternoon in the Coopers & Lybrand Ascot Hurdle and Pipe commented: "He is very well. Richard [Dunwoody] schooled him during the week and he jumped well."

David Pipe, the trainer's father and a key member of the record-breaking team, yesterday explained the difficulties which have resulted in the loss of form. "A few have been coughing, some have been backward and we have had a different type of horse. We set out at the beginning of the season to get 100 winners; even that looks doubtful now," he joked.

"It is frustrating because we were trying to get Richard Dunwoody to be champion jockey. But at least the horses are starting to run well and they're in the frame."

Pipe stressed that the coughing which has affected some horses was not serious. "It is not a bad virus."

Granville Again faces a tough task on his seasonal debut, giving away weight to his five rivals, but Pipe will be looking for a sound performance from his top hurdler as he prepares stable stars for some of National Hunt's major prizes in the forthcoming weeks.

Rolling Ball has been heavily backed for the Hennessy Gold Cup, but it is uncertain where Carvill's Hill will run now that Jodami has been pencilled in for the Rehearsal Chase at Chepstow.

Declan Murphy, the hero of last Saturday's Mackeson Gold Cup, replaces Richard Guest on Flashthecash in the H & T Walker Gold Cup Chase at Ascot tomorrow, his first ride for Toby Balding.

Graham McCourt is another jockey who has been in the wars following two recent falls, and he has required daily treatment from a physiotherapist for injuries to his ribs and a shin. "The most comfortable place for me is on a horse, funnily enough," he said following an inspired riding performance yesterday, which saw Solidasarock win the Hamilton Litestat Anniversary Chase at Wincanton.

Charlie Mann is enjoying a dream start in his first season as a trainer and Convoy was his fifth winner when taking the Colin Chaloner Memorial Claiming Hurdle.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: ABBEYLANDS
(3.30 Sedgefield)

Next best: Corrarder
(1.45 Leicester)



Pipe is unruffled by his sluggish start to season

TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

ASCOT
BBC2

2.40: Granville Again, the champion hurdler, makes his seasonal reappearance and reopposes Flakey Dove and King Credo, two of the runners he defeated at Cheltenham in March. However, today's race is over a further half-mile, which is unlikely to suit King Credo. The trip will be perfect for **Flakey Dove**, the only one of the trio to have had a run this season and, in receipt of 10lb, Richard Price's game mare can prevail.

3.10: The best novice chase of the season should see **Baydon Star** maintain his unbeaten record. Ghia Gneuiagh reopposes after finishing an eight-length second to the David Nicholson-trained chaser at Cheltenham on Saturday, but Easy Buck may be a bigger threat after winning at Windsor. However, the selection was a stone better over hurdles than Nick Gaselee's contender.

3.40: Cairncastle, one of the few runners guaranteed to get this trip, would have finished much closer at Kempton last time but for a blunder four flights from home. I just prefer **Sendai**, trained by Josh Gifford, who had a pipe-opener over fences last month and is running off the same mark as when finishing an excellent second at Cheltenham in April. The in-form Bas De Laine and Far Too Loud have obvious chances.

RICHARD EVANS

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ASCOT	101	201	301
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G'HOUNDS	122	222	422

ASCOT

THUNDERER
1.00 Arctic Kinsman
1.35 Keep Talking
2.10 Spikey
2.40 Granville Again
3.10 Baydon Star
3.40 **SENDAI** (nap)

GOING: GOOD SIS

1.00 BINGLEY NOVICES HURDLE (£2,918: 2m 4f) (7 runners)

101 1S20 KING UBAD 14F (G) (A Richards) K Cunningham-Brown 4-11-4 Richard Guest 92
102 420-152 TOP SPIN 22 (F) (J Long) J Jenkins 4-11-4 A Maguire [illegible]
103 1S4- ARCTIC KINSMAN 200 (S) (Mrs R Hambro) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-0 C Llewellyn —
104 11- CALL HOME 211 (F) (M Pinto) J Gifford 5-11-0 D Murphy —
105 103-2 GOLDEN SPINNER 13 (BF,S) (Mrs H M-Jones) N Henderson 6-11-0 R Dunwoody 94
106 36P0-05 ROSS GRAHAM 20 (C Hansbeny) Mrs B Waring 5-11-0 P Holley 80
107 TIME ENOUGH (A Cohen) J Upson 4-11-0 R Supple —

BETTING: 2-1 Arctic Kinsman, 5-2 Golden Spinner, 100-30 Call Home, 9-2 Top Spin, 12-1 King Ubad, 20-1 Time Enough, 50-1 Ross Graham

1992: GLEN LOCHAN 7-11-4 J Osborne (4-7 fav) Miss H Knight 7 ran

1.35 PUNCH BOWL AMATEURS HANDICAP CHASE (£4,260: 3m 110yd) (4 runners)

201 111/P5P- KEEP TALKING 314 (D,F,G) (Queen Elizabeth) T T-Jones 8-11-10 Mr M Armytage 88
202 431PF2- WINDY WAYS 202 (F,G) (Mrs P Sherwood) N Henderson 8-11-5 Mr C Vigors (7) 92
203 13-2212 TRI FOLENE 30 (B,F,G,S) (D L'Estrange) M Pipe 7-10-11 Mr A Martin 97
204 413P-45 STAY ON TRACKS 15 (D,F,G,S) (R Oliver Smith) Mrs D Haine 11-10-9 N King (7) [illegible]

BETTING: 13-8 Tri Folene, 9-4 Windy Ways, 3-1 Keep Talking, 5-1 Stay On Tracks

1992: NORMAN CONQUEROR 7-11-10 Mr S Swiers (2-1) T Thomson Jones 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

KEEP TALKING pulled up behind Rushing Wild in 11-runner handicap chase at Sandown (3m 5f 110yd, good to soft). WINDY WAYS 4l 2nd of 6 to Mr Boston in a handicap chase at Uttoxeter (3m 2f, firm). Last season, 10½l 4th of 13 to Jodami in a handicap chase at Newbury (3m 2f 110yd, soft) with KEEP TALKING (2lb better off) short-head 5th. TRI FOLENE ½l 2nd of 11 to Mayoran in an amateur riders' handicap chase at Cheltenham (3m 1f 110yd, good). STAY ON TRACKS 15¾l 4th of 9 to Carbisdale on penultimate start in a handicap chase at Huntingdon (3m, good to firm).
Selection: KEEP TALKING

2.10 CHARLES DAVIS NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£7,667: 3m 110yd) (8 runners)

301 3-51514 FESTIVAL DREAMS 22 (F,G,S) (Mrs N Duffield) Mrs P Duffield 8-11-11 P Holley 88
302 1U0-321 EARTH SUMMIT 16 (D,G,S) (N Payne) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-10 C Llewellyn 93
303 4220-33 MUNKA 9 (S) (Capt E Edwards-Heathcote) P Hobbs 7-11-7 Peter Hobbs 91
304 6603-U1 FIVELEIGH FIRST 15 (G) (The Equus Club) J Upson 5-11-5 R Supple 89
305 3P20-F4 DEEPENDABLE 27 (Mrs P Sherwood) N Henderson 6-11-5 M A Fitzgerald [illegible]
306 32-4454 THEO'S FELLA 8 (G) (Theo Waddington Ltd) G Balding 9-11-4 S Hodgson 86
307 P6U3-B0 GLENGRIFFIN 9 (G) (B Naylor) J Gifford 8-11-0 P Hide (3) 80
308 P3245U- SPIKEY 206 (S Powell) J Jenkins 7-11-0 A Maguire 91

BETTING: 5-2 Earth Summit, 3-1 Fiveleigh First, 4-1 Munka, 11-2 Deependable, 8-1 Festival Dreams, 12-1 Spikey, 14-1 Theo's Fella, 20-1 Glengriffin.

1992: ANNIO CHILONE 6-10-12 D Murphy (6-1) J Gifford 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

FESTIVAL DREAMS beat Prince's Court 3l on penultimate start in an 8-runner novice chase at Wincanton (3m 5f, good to firm). Previously 52l 4th of 7 to Some Day Soon in novice chase at Kempton (2½m 110yd, good to firm)
EARTH SUMMIT finished alone in a 4-runner novice chase at Haydock (3m, good)
Previously, he was a head 2nd of 5 to Don't Light Up in a novice chase at Newton Abbot (3m 2f 110yd, soft).
MUNKA 15½l 3rd of 8 to Crystal Spirit in a novice chase at Newbury (2m 4f, good). Previously 6l 3rd of 5 to High Baron to handicap hurdle at Exeter (2¼m, good to firm).
FIVELEIGH FIRST beat Senegalais 5l in a 10-runner novice chase at Uttoxeter (3m 2f, good). Previously in lead at final fence when unseating rider in race won by Sandaig in novice handicap at Bangor On Dee (3m 110yd, good). DEEPENDABLE 7¾l 4th of 11 to Pardon Me Mum in a novice chase at Huntingdon (3m, good to firm).
THEO'S FELLA was a 13l 4th of 10 to Old Bng in a novice chase at Towcester (3m 1f, good).
Selection: MUNKA

2.40 COOPERS & LYBRAND ASCOT HURDLE (Grade II: £13,329: 2m 4f) (6 runners) BBC2

401 1/22312- GRANVILLE AGAIN 230 (D,F,G,S) (E Scarth) M Pipe 7-11-10 R Dunwoody 96
402 25110-2 SWEET DUKE 20 (C,D,G,S) (A Mavrou) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-5 C Llewellyn 97
403 1112-11 CASTLE COURAGEOUS 9 (G,S) (Lady Mountford) Lady Herries 6-11-0 E Murphy 87
404 20210-4 FLAKEY DOVE 20 (C,D,F,G,S) (J Price) R Price 7-11-0 J Osborne 91
405 1206-10 HIGH BARON 13 (F,S) (Miss C James) R Alner 6-11-0 M Hourigan 82
406 16/4414- KING CREDO 248 (G,S) (G Gomall) S Woodman 8-11-0 A Maguire [illegible]

BETTING: 8-11 Granville Again, 4-1 King Credo, 6-1 Sweet Duke, 13-2 Flakey Dove, 12-1 others.

1992: MUSE 5-11-0 P Holley (9-1) D Elsworth 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

GRANVILLE AGAIN 1½l 2nd of 6 to Morley Street in grade I Martell Aintree Hurdle at Liverpool (2m 4f, firm), previously beat Royal Derbi 1l in 18-runner grade I Smurfit Champion Hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 110yd, good to firm), with KING CREDO (10lb better off) 5½l 4th and FLAKEY DOVE (5lb better off) 11l 7th. SWEET DUKE 2l 2nd of 6 to Deb's Ball in grade II Tote West Yorkshire Hurdle at Wetherby (3m 1f, good), with FLAKEY DOVE 14l 4th. CASTLE COURAGEOUS beat Winter Squall ¾l in a 7-runner conditions hurdle at Newbury (2m 5f, good), previously beat Hebridean 3l in a 9-runner handicap hurdle at Kempton (2m 5f, good).
Selection: GRANVILLE AGAIN

3.10 HURST PARK NOVICES CHASE (Grade II: £9,195: 2m) (6 runners) BBC2

501 1213-11 BAYDON STAR 6 (D,G,S) (Mrs S Robins) D Nicholson 6-11-7 A Maguire [illegible]
502 F-22113 KEEP SHARP 11 (D,G) (Harl & Co Ltd) Mrs S Smith 7-11-4 Richard Guest 69
503 2041-31 EASY BUCK 6 (D,F,G,S) (Burford Laundry Ltd) N Gaselee 6-11-0 C Maude 80
504 2113-12 GHIA GNEUIAGH 6 (C,G,S) (Mrs S Scott) N Twiston-Davies 7-11-0 C Llewellyn 94
505 230304- KIBREET 217 (F,G,S) (D Sinecter) R Alner 6-11-0 S Earle 89
506 04P-112 STRONG VIEWS 51 (BF,F,G,S) (Ms M Horan) J White 6-11-0 M A Fitzgerald 82

BETTING: 1-2 Baydon Star, 4-1 Ghia Gneuiagh, 6-1 Easy Buck, 10-1 Strong Views, 25-1 Keep Sharp, 33-1 Kibreet

1992: SYBILLIN 6-11-0 M Dwyer (11-8 fav) Jimmy Fitzgerald 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

BAYDON STAR beat GHIA GNEUIAGH (3lb better off) 8l in a 4-runner novice chase at Cheltenham (2m, soft), previously beat San Lorenzo 2l in a 6-runner novice chase at Uttoxeter (2m, good). KEEP SHARP beat Explosive Speed head in a 3-runner novice chase at Wetherby (2m, good) on penultimate start. EASY BUCK beat San Lorenzo 10l in a 14-runner novice chase at Windsor (2m, good). GHIA GNEUIAGH beat Gandouge Glen 10l in a 9-runner novice chase at Ascot (2m 3f 110y, good) on penultimate start. STRONG VIEWS 2½l 2nd of 8 to Mine's An Ace in a novice chase at Cheltenham (2m 110yd, good to firm).
Selection: BAYDON STAR (nap)

3.40 LION GATE HANDICAP HURDLE (£4,879: 3m) (8 runners) BBC2

601 26306-0 JOPANINI 13 (F,G,S) (J A Ltd) N Henderson 8-12-0 M A Fitzgerald 98
602 3/456-12 BAS DE LAINE 13 (C,BF,F,G) (R Bins Ltd) O Sherwood 7-11-11 J McCarthy (5) 95
603 /41/0/3 PIPERS COPSE 39 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs P Locke) G Harwood 11-11-9 G Bradley 90
604 2F22F-4 SENDAI 29 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs M Tulnell) J Gifford 7-11-7 P Hide (3) [illegible]
605 2350-43 CAIRNCASTLE 22 (D,F,G,S) (Miss S Steel) C Barwell 8-10-6 N Mann 95
606 31/21-41 FAR TOO LOUD 3 (F,G,S) (R Dennis) Mrs J Retter 6-10-0 (4ex) B Clifford 96
607 22113/0- CRABBY BILL 389F (B,G) (Financial Trace) Miss B Sanders 6-10-0 A Maguire 80
608 3400/PO TROJAN ENVOY 8 (G) (Mrs R Henderson) Mrs R Henderson 5-10-0 Mr W Henderson —

BETTING: 5-2 Bas De Laine, 7-2 Far Too Loud, 9-2 Sendai, 5-1 Cairncastle, 6-1 Pipers Copse, 8-1 Jopanini, 25-1 Crabby Bill, 50-1 Trojan Envoy.

1992: NODFORM WONDER 5-11-7 M Dwyer (11-8) D Eddy 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

BAS DE LAINE head 2nd of 7 to Northern Village in a conditional jockeys' handicap hurdle at Sandown (2m 6f, good). PIPERS COPSE 16l 3rd of 6 to Change The Act in a handicap hurdle at Fontwell (2m 2f, good to soft). SENDAI best when 2l 2nd of 14 to Knave Of Clubs in a handicap hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 5f 110yd, good to firm) last season. CAIRNCASTLE 6½l 3rd of 8 to Kano Warrior in a hcap hurdle at Kempton (3m 110yd, good to firm). FAR TOO LOUD beat Jailbreaker 1l in a 16-runner hcap hurdle at Newton Abbot (2m 6f, soft).
Selection: FAR TOO LOUD

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
J Upson	3	10	30.0	R Supple	4	12	33.3
M Pipe	22	91	24.2	Mr M Armytage	3	10	30.0
O Sherwood	11	48	22.9	C Maude	4	18	22.2
N Twiston-Davies	10	45	22.2	J Osborne	17	77	22.1
P Hobbs	7	39	17.9	Richard Guest	5	28	17.9
Mrs S Smith	3	17	17.6	Peter Hobbs	4	29	13.8

LEICESTER

THUNDERER
12.45 O So Neet. 1.15 Fardross. 1.45 Corrarder. 2.15 Noncommital. 2.45 Jazilah. 3.15 Alreef.

GOING: GOOD (CHASE COURSE) GOOD TO SOFT (HURDLES) SIS

12.45 BEGINNERS JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (3-Y-O: £1,764: 2m) (8 runners)

1 BOLD STAR 3F R Hollinshead 10-12 S Wynne (3)
2 ELECTROLYTE 11F B Palling 10-12 M Richards
3 4 MR BEAN 13 K Burke 10-12 J Duggan
4 3 O SO NEET 32 M Tompkins 10-12 B. Powell
5 0 PYRAMIS PRINCE 78 Mrs H Knight 10-12 N Williamson
6 5 ALYVAIR 11F M Ryan 10-7 J Ryan
7 PRUSSILUSKAN Mrs S Dysell 10-7 J McLaughlin
8 4 THE SECRET SEVEN 69 J Cresswell 10-7 R Davis (3)

5-2 O So Neet, 3-1 Mr Bean, 4-1 The Secret Seven, 6-1 Alyvair, 10-1 Bold Star, Pyramis Prince, 16-1 Electrolyte, 25-1 Prussiluskan.

1.15 JOHN O'GAUNT NOVICES CHASE (£2,528: 3m) (7)

1 -1FF FARDROSS 15 (BF,G) K Bailey 7-11-6 N Williamson
2 50-3 EBONY GALE 13 (BF,S) Mrs J Pitman 7-11-0 B Powell
3 26P- GUTE NACHT 221 S Campion 10-11-0 S Lyons (5)
4 -2R0 MR GEE 15 (B) K Burke 8-11-0 S McNeill
5 0-3F NO WORD 74 J White 6-11-0 W McFarland
6 P00/ WAYWARD SAILOR 755 J Spearing 7-11-0 W Marston
7 2F4- WOODLANDS BOY 218 T Etherington 5-10-12 G McCourt

7-4 Fardross, 5-2 Ebony Gale, 5-1 Mr Gee, 7-1 No Word, 8-1 Woodlands Boy, 14-1 Gute Nacht, 20-1 Wayward Sailor.

1.45 SILVER BELL HANDICAP CHASE (£2,703: 2m 4f 110yd) (4)

1 -311 CORRARDER 16 (D,F,G) J Old 9-11-10 Mr J Smyth-Osbourne
2 FP2- ZAMIL 279 (G,S) K Burke 8-11-5 N Williamson
3 3-66 CLONROCHE DRILLER 6 (CD,G,S) Mrs S Bramall 8-10-11 Mr D Parker (7)
4 3-33 SPIRIT OF KIBRIS 27 (S) Mrs J Pitman 8-10-6 B Powell

Evens Corrarder, 5-2 Spirit of Kibris, 11-4 Zamil, 12-1 Clonroche Driller.

2.15 BARKBY NOVICES CLAIMING HURDLE (£1,841: 2m) (13)

1 3034 NORTHERN TRIAL 16 K Burke 5-11-8 T Jenks (5)
2 0 NORMAN WARRIOR 18 D Morris 4-11-2 H Davies
3 30-0 PRIORY PIPER 16 J Pickering 4-11-2 A Thornton (3)
4 3-12 RUTH'S GAMBLE 23 (D,BF,G) Mrs L Jewell 5-11-1 R Davis (3)
5 ARMASHOCKER 11F Bob Jones 5-10-13 V Smith
6 60 ROCKY BAY 28 B Llewellyn 4-10-11 Mr J L Llewellyn (7)
7 26P- BORRETO 221 C James 9-10-10 Mr E James (7)
8 -002 NONCOMMITAL 8 J Mackie 6-10-10 N Williamson
9 0 ROLY WALLACE 15 (V) A Forbes 4-10-10 T Eley (5)
10 -00P ALWAYS ALLIED 8 (V) J Joseph 5-10-7 D Skyrme
11 P004 GREAT HAND 18 (B) R Rowe 7-10-7 C Burnett-Wells (5)
12 4F04 PRIVATE JET 18 J Ffitch-Heyes 4-10-7 M Richards
13 LIZZIE DRIPPIN 280F M Usher 4-10-5 W McFarland

5-2 Northern Trial, 7-2 Noncommittal, 9-2 Private Jet, 6-1 Ruth's Gamble, 8-1 Great Hand, 10-1 Armashocker, 14-1 Norman Warrior, 20-1 Borreto, 25-1 others.

2.45 KNIGHTON NOVICES HURDLE (£2,072: 2m) (11)

1 BALZAON KNIGHT 1052F D Arbuthnot 6-10-12 N Williamson
2 P-0P BIG CHANCE 31 J Ffitch-Heyes 4-10-12 M Richards
3 JAZILAH 36F R Akehurst 5-10-12 G McCourt
4 00- KHAKI LIGHT 352 M Charles 5-10-12 M Sharratt
5 4- MOON MONKEY 258 Mrs A King 5-10-12 S McNeill
6 1- TAKE THE BUCKSKIN 298 (G) T Thomson Jones 6-10-12 S Smith Eccles
7 6-P THE CARROT MAN 13 C Egerton 5-10-12 J Railton
8 6 TIGER SHOOT 11F (B) C Lines 6-10-12 S Keightley
9 YOUNG BALDRIC Mrs J Pitman 6-10-12 D Bohan (7)
10 JIMILL 177F B Palling 5-10-7 L Harvey
11 P- JOLIZAL 302 D Morris 5-10-7 H Davies

15-8 Jazilah, 4-1 Take The Buckskin, 9-2 Young Baldric, 13-2 Jimill, 10-1 Moon Monkey, 16-1 Balzaon Knight, The Carrot Man, 20-1 Tiger Shoot, 25-1 others.

3.15 WALTHAM CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,970: 2m) (7)

1 23-2 ALREEF 25F (D,G,S) T Thomson Jones 7-12-0 D Meade
2 424- OSTURA 275 (D,S) J White 8-11-4 P McLoughlin
3 051- BABY ASHLEY 200 (D,G) D Morris 7-10-9 D Meredith
4 06-5 ALL PRESENT 41 (D,S) D Gandolfo 5-10-8 W Marston
5 3542 MY LINDIANNE 14 (CD,S) J Dooler 6-10-7 A Thornton
6 60P- CARDINAL BIRD 216 (B,D,S) S Mellor 6-10-5 C Webb (5)
7 12F- BARCHAM 91F (D,S) D Wilson 6-10-1 R Farrant

5-1 Barcham, 100-30 Alreef, 4-1 My Lindianne, 5-1 Ostura, 13-2 Baby Ashley, 8-1 All Present, 16-1 Cardinal Bird.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: B Palling, 3 winners from 8 runners, 37.5%; Mrs J Pitman, 20 from 62, 32.3%; J Mackie, 6 from 21, 28.6%; M Tompkins, 4 from 14, 28.6%; J White, 3 from 12, 25%; J A B Old, 4 from 24, 16.7%.
JOCKEYS: S Smith Eccles, 12 winners from 47 rides, 25.5%; M Richards, 5 from 22, 22.7%; N Williamson, 3 from 24, 12.5%; W McFarland, 3 from 32, 9.4%; G McCourt, 3 from 43, 7%; only qualifiers.

SEDGEFIELD

THUNDERER
12.25 Fling In Spring. 12.55 Skolern. 1.25 Buckwheat Lad. 1.55. Carousel Calypso. 2.30 Tresidder. 3.00 Tronchetto. 3.30. Abbeylands.
The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.30 **ABBEYLANDS.**

GOING: GOOD SIS

12.25 JOHN WADE NOVICES SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,763: 2m 1f 110yd) (11 runners)

1 34-05 FLASH OF REALM 13 P Monteith 7-12-0 A Dobbin
2 2242 FLING IN SPRING 8 Mrs S Bradburne 7-11-13 P Williams (5)
3 040 WELLSY LAD 27 D Chapman 6-11-3 R Garritty
4 403 PEEDIE PEAT 23 J O'Neill 3-10-13 M Dwyer
5 2-F0 LITTLE CONKER 23 A Smith 5-10-10 S Turner
6 2S00 SHAYNA MAIDEL 23 J Bidall 4-10-10 L O'Hara
7 /040 MY TATA 14 (V) L Lloyd-James 7-10-4 J Corkell
8 0-00 JUST EVE 8 J Gledson 6-10-2 B Storey
9 0-05 DOLLY PRICES 8 W Smith 8-10-0 N Bentley (3)
10 P00- LEADER SAL 280 J Wade 4-10-0 D Ryan (7)
11 460 WAWEEWAWOO 27 D Moffatt 5-10-0 D J Moffatt (3)

4-1 Fling In Spring, 5-1 Peedie Peat, 13-2 Flash Of Realm, My Tata, 8-1 Dolly Prices, 9-1 Little Conker, Shayna Maidel, 10-1 Waweewawoo, 14-1 others.

12.55 HATHAWAY'S LADY JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,719: 2m 1f 110yd) (10)

1 -F03 COOL DUDE 27 (G) J Johnson 7-12-0 Mrs P Nash (5)
2 6/4P SKOLERN 15F (F,G) A Harrison 9-11-9 Bee Armytage
3 5-63 COMSTOCK 11 (G) N Tinkler 6-11-8 Lorna Vincent
4 P5-0 HIGHFIELD PRINCE 10 (C,D,F,G) R O'Leary 7-11-7 Judy Davies (7)
5 1F-4 J P MORGAN 15F (V,G) M Naughton 5-11-7 Mrs A Farrell
6 6-00 CAPTAIN TANCRED 23 (S) J Bidall 5-10-10 Jacqui Oliver
7 404- TAURIAN PRINCESS 170 (S) W Clay 4-10-2 Diana Clay
8 6005 STATION EXPRESS 14 (CD,F,G) B Ellison 5-10-0 Mrs J Speight
9 0-64 NEWMARKET SAUSAGE 66 (C,F,G,S) T Kersey 12-10-0 Susan Kersey
10 46/0 PANTO LADY 14 Mrs K Lamb 7-10-0 Miss S Lamb (7)

3-1 J P Morgan, 100-30 Comstock, 4-1 Cool Dude, 6-1 Captain Tancred, 9-1 Skolern, Taurian Princess, 10-1 Station Express, 20-1 others.

1.25 W A STEPHENSON MEMORIAL NOVICES CHASE (£3,668: 2m 5f) (8)

1 -321 SHEILAS HILLCREST 10 (CD,S) N Mason 7-11-5 J Supple (5)
2 41-1 BEACHY HEAD 41 (G,S) J O'Neill 5-11-4 M Dwyer
3 5466 EBRO 14 (B) V Thompson 7-10-12 A Merrigan
4 -4FF EDEN SUNSET 38 R Collins 7-10-12 Mr C Wilson
5 32F- ISSYIN 311 M W Easterby 6-10-12 R Garritty
6 40-2 MARLINGFORD 8 (G,S) Mrs J Jordan 6-10-12 D Morris
7 66-4 REEF LARK 27 (F,S) D McCone 8-10-12 C Grant
8 0-2 BUCKWHEAT LAD 42 P Cheesbrough 5-10-11 K Johnson

7-4 Beachy Head, 3-1 Marlingford, 5-1 Buckwheat Lad, 7-1 Reef Lark, 8-1 others.

1.55 COLIN MACANDREW AMATEUR RIDERS MEMORIAL CHASE (£2,269: 3m 3f) (6)

1 4-F4 BOREEN OWEN 11 (CD,G,S) J O'Neill 9-12-2 S Swiers
2 515/ BRADWALL 958 (F,S) G Barlow 9-12-2 J Barlow (7)
3 22-3 CAROUSEL CALYPSO 11 (G,S) M Hammond 7-12-2 C Bonner (7)
4 PF-0 BUCKLE IT UP 34 (B,S) A Mactaggart 8-11-12 D Mactaggart (5)
5 3634 GATHERING TIME 13 (G,S) J Johnson 7-11-12 Mrs P Nash (5)
6 0P-2 MOYODE REGENT 30 R Lamb 9-11-7 A Manners (7)

5-4 Boreen Owen, 7-2 Carousel Calypso, 9-2 Gathering Time, 6-1 others.

2.30 CRAWLEAS HANDICAP CHASE (£2,733: 2m 1f) (7)

1 -333 MAUDLINS CROSS 16 (CD,F,G) Mrs M Reveley 8-12-0 P Niven
2 112- TRESIDDER 172 (CD,F,G,S) M W Easterby 11-11-10 R Garritty
3 F3-F BELDINE 7 (F,G,S) P Monteith 8-11-2 A Dobbin
4 33F- SILVER HAZE 181 (D,F,S) J Wade 9-10-7 K Jones
5 453- MILITARY HONOUR 202 (G,S) J Swiers 8-10-3 J Callaghan
6 U5P5 SINGING SAM 7 (G) W Cunningham 8-10-0 A Merrigan
7 04U2 PRESSURE GAME 7 (F) B Mactaggart 10-10-0 F Perratt (7)

11-4 Pressure Game, 7-2 Beldine, 5-1 Tresidder, 11-2 Silver Haze, 6 Maudlins Cross, 7-1 Military Honour, 12-1 Singing Sam.

3.00 SEDGEFIELD PADDOCK BOOKMAKERS HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,970: 2m 5f 110yd) (7)

1 25-2 FIRM PRICE 39 (CD,BF,F,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 12-12-0 P Niven
2 1F64 CHIEF RAIDER 16 (D,G) J Wade 5-10-12 D Bentley (5)
3 01-0 SKIRCOAT GREEN 38 (CD,G,S) P Beaumont 8-10-2 Mrs A Farrell
4 1543 MASTER OF THE ROCK 16 (C,F,G,S) Mrs P Barker 4-10-2 C Hawkins
5 P252 TRONCHETTO 7 (B,CD,F) J O'Neill 4-10-1 M Dwyer
6 P-10 INTEGRITY BOY 16 (B,CD,F,G,S) R O'Leary 6-10-0 L Wyer
7 5/P0 STARLIGHT WONDER 10 (F,G) R Barr 7-10-0 N Smith

5-2 Tronchetto, 100-30 Firm Price, 7-2 Master Of The Rock, 5-1 others.

3.30 HARPINGTON NOVICES HURDLE (£1,484: 3m 3f 110yd) (8)

1 2 ABBEYLANDS 13 J Johnson 5-11-0 D J Moffatt (3)
2 62-3 CRANK SHAFT 16 F Yardley 6-11-0 D Gallagher
3 P-3 DALUSMAN 8 T Carr 5-11-0 B Storey
4 6-P4 OVER THE ODDS 10 J Wade 4-11-0 D Ryan (7)
5 34-3 STRONG TRACE 11 M Hammond 4-11-0 C Grant
6 -406 TWIN STATES 8 J Turner 4-11-0 W Fry (7)
7 P-30 NOBLE BRONZE 14 Mrs V Aconley 5-10-9 C Woodall (7)
8 23-0 PORTONIA 20 (F,S) Mrs M Reveley 9-10-9 P Niven

5-2 Abbeylands, 3-1 Crank Shaft, 4-1 Portonia, 8-1 Strong Trace, 10-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Mrs M Reveley, 53 winners from 176 runners, 30.1%; J J O'Neill, 10 from 44, 22.7%; N Mason, 4 from 19, 21.1%; N Tinkler, 3 from 15, 20.0%; P Cheesbrough, 3 from 16, 18.8%; P Beaumont, 10 from 63, 15.9%.
JOCKEYS: D Ryan, 6 winners from 23 rides, 26.1%; P Niven, 51 from 199, 25.6%; M Dwyer, 28 from 118, 23.7%; 23.1%; L Wyer, 23 from 100, 23.0%; F Perratt, 3 from 14, 21.4%; C Grant, 44 from 219, 20.1%.

Wragg hope at Evry

Geoff Wragg saddles Pipers Pool (Frankie Dettori) in the listed Prix Belle de Nuit at Evry today. The John Gosden-trained Felawnah (John Reid) and John Dunlop's Midnight Heights (Alan Munro) compete for the Premio Giovanni Falck at San Siro, Milan, which has been carried over from the meeting abandoned earlier this month.

Hennessy favourite now 100-30

WHISPERING Steel's Hennessy odds shortened to 100-30 yesterday in anticipation of a sharp rise in the weights for the Newbury showpiece tomorrow week.

The Gordon Richards-trained challenger was cut from 4-1 favourite by Corals following Jodami's return to winning form at Haydock.

Jodami's defeat of Cab On Target at Haydock on Wednesday earned him a 4lb penalty that takes his weight to 12st 2lb for Newbury and he is now likely to tackle the Rehearsal Chase at Chepstow.

The connections of Whispering Steel, who has 9st 5lb, must hope that top weight Carvills Hill, also a possible for the Rehearsal, drops out as well resulting in a 12lb rise.

The Cheltenham winner, Royal Athlete, who has been cut to 7-1 (from 8-1) by Corals and William Hill, would become the new top weight. Hills shortened Cahervillahow to 14-1 from 20-1.

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

Haydock Park

Going: good to soft

1.10 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Marros Mill (A Maguire, 2-5 fav); 2, Heathyards Boy (9-2); 3, Record Lover (10-1) 4 ran. 5l, 20l. D Nicholson Tote: £1.30. DF £1.70. CSF: £2.67

1.40 (2m 4f ch) 1, The Master Gunner (R Davis, 5-4 fav); 2, Persian House (7-2); 3, Pinemartin (5-1). 5 ran. 5l, 15l. K Bailey. Tote: £2.00. £1.40, £1.60. DF. £2.30. CSF: £5.23

2.10 (3m 4f 110yd) 1, Padaventure (P Niven, 11-4); 2, All Jeff (13-8 fav); 3, Military Secret (4-1). 6 ran 1½l, 30l Mrs M Reveley Tote: £3.50; £1.90, £1.50. DF: £2.70. CSF: £7.62.

2.40 (3m 4f hdle) 1, Powleyvale (L Wyer, 4-1); 2, White Willow (10-11 fav); 3, Savoy (10-1) 10 ran. 1½l, 8l. B Rothwell. Tote: £5.20; £1.60, £1.40, £2.40 DF: £4.10. CSF £8.33.

3.10 (2m ch) 1, Roxton Hill (G Bradley, 6-5 fav); 2, Full O'Praise (5-4); 3, Heir of Excitement (6-1) 4 ran. NR: West With The Wind. 3l, dist. C Brooks Tote £2.40 DF: £1.70 CSF: £2.90

3.40 (2m 6f) 1, Bonanza (R Hodge, 5-1); 2, Bollin William (4-1); 3, Dominant Serenade (14-1). Countorus 11-4 fav. 11 ran. NR: My Desire. ½l, 1½l. Mrs M Reveley. Tote £6.70; £2.10, £1.60, £4.10. DF: £8.60. CSF: £25.24. Tricast: £247.87.

Jackpot: £690.60.

Placepot: £18.00.

Wincanton

Going: good to firm

1.00 (2m hdle) 1, Convoy (R Dunwoody, 4-5 fav); 2, Marat (8-1); 3, Is She Quick (4-1). 7 ran. 2½l, 6l. C Mann. Tote: £1.60; £1.30, £3.80. DF: £6.90. CSF: £7.58.

1.30 (2m 5f ch) 1, Dextra Dove (S Earle, 2-1 fav); 2, Steeple Jack (12-1); 3, Grey Admiral (66-1) 6 ran. 6l, dist. R Alner. Tote. £2.30; £1.20, £3.70 DF: £13.40. CSF: £19.97

2.00 (3m 1f 110yd ch) 1, Solidasarock (G McCourt, 7-1); 2, Clever Shepherd (11-4); 3, Walknown Character (9-4). Le Piccolage 2-1 fav. 5 ran Nk, 4l. R Akehurst. Tote: £6.30; £2.10, £1.80. DF: £5.60. CSF: £24.21.

2.30 (2m 6f hdle) 1, Cunninghams Ford (Mr A Harvey, 7-2); 2, Frank Rich (7-1); 3, Anna Valley (9-2). Uluru 2-1 fav. 8 ran. 15l, 25l O Sherwood. Tote: £5.80; £2.10, £2.50. DF: £11.90 CSF: £24.08.

3.00 (2m hdle) 1, Sand-Dollar (S McNeill, 100-30); 2, Always Remember (7-2); 3, Wolver Gold (7-1). Smiling Chief 2-1 fav. 6 ran. ¾l, 3¼l. J Old. Tote: £4.30; £2.20, £2.10. DF: £9.70. CSF: £14.15.

3.30 (2m 5f ch) 1, Thatcher Rock (C Maude, 7-2); 2, Smartie Express (2-1 fav); 3, Well Briefed (20-1). 7 ran. 10l, 3l. P Nicholls Tote: £4.80, £2.70, £1.70. DF: £5.20. CSF: £10.87

Placepot: £393.80

Ludlow

Going: good to firm

12.50 (2m hdle) 1, Distant Memory (N Parker, 15-2); 2, Sashi (11-8 fav); 3, Montagne (20-1). 12 ran. 3l, 3½. P Hobbs. Tote: £8.60. £2.30, £1.20, £1.80. DF: £6.70. CSF. £17.15. Tricast: £167.98.

1.20 (2m 4f ch) 1, Hearts Are Wild (J Osborne, 4-6 fav). 2, Cwm Arctic (20-1). 3, Good For A Loan (5-2). 9 ran. 15l, sh hd T Forster. Tote. £1.60; £1.40, £1.50, £1.20 DF: £9.20. CSF £14.78.

1.50 (2m hdle) 1, Kelly's Darling (D Gallagher, 7-2 jt-fav); 2, Taunting (16-1); 3, Fussy Lady (11-2) Edward Seymour 7-2 jt-fav. 15 ran. NR: The Loving Martial 5l, 1¾l. F Yardley. Tote. £3.50; £1.30, £3.50, £1.60 DF: £19.00. CSF. £53.03.

2.20 (3m ch) 1, Sandybraes (Mr G Hogan, 15-8 fav). 2, Impeccable Timing (50-1); 3, Comedy Road (4-1). 6 ran. 7l, 1l D Nicholson. Tote. £2.30; £1.50, £10.40. DF. £30.20 CSF: £41.23.

2.50 (2m 5f 110yd hdle) 1, Nirvana Prince (T Wall, 11-2), 2, Konvekta Control (9-4 jt-fav); 3, Emperor Buck (9-4 jt-fav). Marshall Sparks 9-4 jt-fav 8 ran. 10l, 2l. B Preece. Tote: £6.60; £1.20, £1.60, £1.30. DF: £12.80. Trio: £56.90 CSF: £17.66.

3.20 (2m ch) 1, Tinas Lad (N Williamson, 12-1); 2, Chain Shot (16-1); 3, Sailor's Delight (50-1). Star of The Glen 5-4 fav. 8 ran. 1½l, 8l. J Edwards Tote: £15.20; £2.40, £2.10, £10.60. DF: £33.00. CSF. £146.94. Tricast: £7,999.63

3.50 (2m) 1, Captain Khedive (M Hourigan, 4-5 fav). 2, Kings Chariot (5-1); 3, Sebastopol (10-1). 14 ran NR: Precious Juno, Barney's Gift. Nk, 10l P Hobbs Tote: £1.90, £1.50, £1.80, £2.00. DF: £11.40. Trio £46.20. CSF: £5.91.

Placepot: £221.30.

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Rush to join exclusive club must be resisted



GERALD DAVIES

Rugby Commentary

THE eight clubs from England and Wales which acted unilaterally of their respective rugby unions last week and met to discuss the formation of an Anglo-Welsh league are proceeding with unseemly and blinkered haste.

To begin with, the rugby authorities of both countries are already in the early stages of pursuing the merits of an idea which would unite both sides of Offa's Dyke in a way it had done in years past, but which had been brought to a halt since the inauguration of leagues. The Celts and the Anglos, for all their tribal instincts and contrariness towards each other, have realised they cannot, after all, do without one another.

Feeling that the authorities are dragging their feet, the clubs — Cardiff, Llanelli, Neath, Swansea, Bath, Leicester, Harlequins and Wasps — with the puzzling presence of Wales's rugby sponsor, Heineken — seem to believe in rushing headlong forward to redress what appears a desperate need. But without the authority of the governing bodies, the plan retains an air of superficiality.

These matches could only be played in midweek and under floodlights unless the clubs remove their constitutional position, which is unlikely. To attempt to superimpose this extra series on an already crowded fixture list can hardly be conducive to the players.

The clubs would appear to want to create a self-perpetuating cartel, though much reduced, of similar style to that which existed in Wales before the rugby structure changed. This would be a step back to a system which had allowed the same 18 clubs to promote themselves as the best. Since no promotion or relegation existed they effectively blackballed anybody else from membership of their exclusive club. The introduction of leagues destroyed this protectionist oligarchy in Wales.

The eight clubs provide what is thought to be the *crème de la crème* in both countries, though this may not necessarily be the case for the future. If an amalgamation of clubs is to exist it must have a more democratic platform.

Promotion and relegation is essential for the promotion of excellence and since all clubs must have access to it, the authority for an Anglo-Welsh league must ultimately rest with the rugby unions.

But who is to say that an Anglo-Welsh league is the most progressive way forward? Why should it be exclusive to England and Wales? What of Scotland and Ireland? And why leave it there?

To rush headlong, to resume Anglo-Welsh relations, without considering anything else, would be precipitate as the chairman of the Welsh Rugby Union, Mr Vernon Pugh, believes. Might they not, having got such a league off the ground, soon find that had they bothered to look beyond the garden wall and contempleted a wider horizon, that other possibilities were open. Why not, therefore, include the rest of Europe?

The fact that both countries are locked into multi-million pound sponsorship deals over the next two years, which are unlikely to be terminated prematurely, gives breathing space to consider more carefully what other options exist.

Of no small concern would be the television contract for which, over the next few months, tenders will be sought with a decision expected in February. Since all four unions are in turmoil as to what shape this contract will take, the length of the contract may turn out to be of not inconsiderable importance.

In the past this period has extended for three years. Since changes in the current structure are therefore being mooted what effect are these likely to have for television?

Each country has its own sponsor at present. It is on this basis the contract will be drawn. This will change if an amalgamated league, of whatever sort, emerges. If the contract period remains the same as before, then it will overrun by a year the sponsors' contracts in England and Wales. At this point a different structure for rugby in these islands may be put in place. With another year of the contract to go, what will television's position be? The unions should ponder how these timings might be synchronised.

Forster rise marked by first cap for All Blacks

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

DRAW a line from Dunedin to Edinburgh, the city from which the most Scottish of New Zealand's major centres takes its name, and you may chart the rise and rise of Stu Forster to international rugby.

Forster, probably the smallest scrum half among the major rugby-playing nations, was one of four new caps named yesterday in the All Blacks team to play Scotland at Murrayfield tomorrow.

He forms a new half-back partnership with Marc Ellis (a stand-off half with whom he had never played before the current tour of England and Scotland) while a third Otago back, Jeff Wilson, appears on the wing.

The persevering Steve Gordon, on his fifth overseas tour, is the fourth newcomer at lock and Zinzan Brooke, shaking off the tag of midweek captain, returns as open-side flanker. It is a major step forward in the development of a new All Black style in the post-Grant Fox era and Forster, 24, credits his inclusion to the form of his province which now furnishes six of the international team. That is one more than Auckland, who have dominated New Zealand selection over the last six years.

Forster, whose height is given as 5ft 6¾in — which looks on the generous side — is a groundsman at Carisbrooke, the stadium in Dunedin where Otago overwhelmed the British Isles in June and launched the scrum half's meteoric rise. At the start of the year he was not among New Zealand's top four players — Ant Strachan, Jon Preston, Simon Crabb and Jason Hewett were all ahead of him in the pecking order.

He was called into the training party before the Lions played New Zealand in the second international in Wellington, after an injury scare, but his chirpy, lightweight style did not appear tailor-made for a game which increasingly involves heavyweights. "I came over here with an open mind, hoping to get a few big games," he said. "Things have gone well."

His first cap will come on the ground where he played with New Zealand's Rugby News youth side in 1988 and now he displaces Preston, who came into the side against the Lions and appeared set for a long run.

"I have been more relaxed this year — I felt I had nothing to lose," Forster said. "A lot of the Otago players felt the same." That includes, presumably, the 22-year-old Ellis in overtaking Steve Bachop, who has been Otago's stand-off all year.

All told there are seven changes from the team which beat Western Samoa to complete New Zealand's domestic international season last July, three in the pack and four in the backs. In part that is accounted for by injury, notably to Lee Stensness, who was the find of 1993 but whose development at centre here has been restricted by a damaged ligament sustained in the second tour match. That vacancy is filled by Matthew Cooper, who started the tour at full back but who has played many times for Waikato in midfield.

His place was guaranteed by his goal-kicking and John Timu's footballing skills allow him to remain full back. Wilson now places a full rugby cap alongside his appearances for New Zealand in one-day cricket and the other contentious issue, the back row, has been resolved in Brooke's favour, ahead of Henderson and Barry.

Brooke has 31 caps to back his claims and extra height to help match the big Scottish lineout. "He showed good form in the England A game and has got steadily better since then," Laurie Mains, the New Zealand coach, said.

Brooke's international career began during the 1987 World Cup as an open-side, though he is better known as a No 8 or blind-side flanker. "It's not a new role for me," he said, though it will be played under the eye of the player he succeeds, Michael Jones, who is due in Edinburgh with a supporters' party.

☐ Courage is to spend £400,000 over the next four years as the official sponsor of the England squad. The brewing company, which has already invested £7 million in the league over the same period, will be allowed to use England players to promote its products in return for financial compensation, a scheme approved by the Rugby Football Union.

TEAM

J K R Timu (Otago); J W Wilson (Otago), F E Bunce (North Harbour), M J A Cooper (Waikato), V L Tuigamala (Auckland); M C G Ellis (Otago), S Forster (Otago), C Dowd (Auckland), S B T Fitzpatrick (Auckland, captain), O M Brown (Auckland), J W Joseph (Otago), I D Jones (Northland), S B Gordon (Waikato), Z V Brooke (Auckland), A R B Pene (Otago).

Replacements: E Clarke (Auckland), J P Preston (Wellington), B P Larsen (North Harbour), P W Henderson (Southland), M R Allen (Taranaki), N Hewitt (Hawke's Bay).

Callard's resolve stiffened by recent setbacks

Oliver Holt meets the full back waiting to learn if he still has the selectors' confidence

It is the morning after the afternoon before. Jonathan Callard has just finished telling his class of 13-year-old boys the moves they will be practising in their games lesson. "So we're not doing the long-miss-one today, sir," said one who is braver than the rest. He got a collective laugh that sent plumes of hot breath spiralling into the frosty Somerset air.

Callard joined in but is still trying to forget about the long-miss-one, the pass he attempted in the opening minutes of his appearance for England A against the All Blacks the weekend before last. It was intercepted, the opposition scored an easy try and Callard's position as the favourite to succeed Jonathan Webb as England's full back suffered another jolting setback.

A week earlier, the muttering had begun when he performed poorly for the South and South-West against the All Blacks, fluffing routine penalties. His passing gaffe in the second game raised the mutterings to a jangling chorus of criticism and provoked a hasty re-evaluation of the alternatives to a player who had achieved such consistent excellence for his club, Bath, over the last two seasons.

His detractors claim that he crumbles under pressure, that he will not be able to stand the tension, the lonely exposure, of kicking for goal against the most respected rugby nation in the world. Some would remember only that agonisingly long, looping pass that floated almost in slow-motion into the eager hands of Jeff Wilson, the All Black wing.

"I knew from the moment the ball left my hands what was going to happen," Callard says. "But the opening was there. It was definitely there. As I ran from deep, I saw Bunce coming towards me and he was heading on to Hunter. What I had been planning to do was step inside and give it to Hunter, but Bunce would just have creamed him.

"So I either had to kick the ball back to the All Blacks or try and get the ball wide into a two-on-one situation. Had the ball gone to the centre's hands, we would have scored without a doubt. But as soon as I let it go, I thought 'oh no'.

"One of the things the England management said at the beginning of the season was they wanted to get rid of the fear of failure so they cannot say I did not try. I was dejected because I let the team down with that one pass. But I can tell you one thing: it won't happen again."

Far from concurring with those who insist he will now be "psychologically exposed" because of his twin traumas, Callard, 27, insists his recent experiences will have stood him in good stead if his inclusion in the 24-man squad for the match is capped by a place in the starting line-up, which will be announced on Sunday.

He seems strong willed and unaffected by the criticism that was heaped upon him. He kicked five penalties in a club match against Newcastle Gosforth last Saturday. He is modest and unassuming, too, a popular assistant housemaster at Downside. Although he does not say it, he expects England to pick him.

"You do not become a bad player overnight," he says in the local pub. "That is my philosophy and I have taken a lot of heart from it. I have got the bad ones out of my system now and I feel I am fortunate because I have had the opportunity to experience a high-pressure situation instead of just going out cold and raw and winning my first cap against the All Blacks.

"There are only two choices the selectors can play at full back and that is myself or Ian Hunter. It would be farcical to play either Barnes or Andrew there because that would be just trying to give with one hand while taking away with the other. If they feel that I was not up to scratch in those two games, then that is fair enough.

"But even though I have not done myself justice in their eyes or those of the public I did enough to keep myself happy ... I did not crumble and I don't think anyone could criticise me on my full-back play."

If Callard does receive the selectors' vote, there will be no hiding place at Twickenham, no immersion in a heaving pack, no anonymous place in the lineout. The full back's lot is a lonely one.

"Full back is the most pressurised job," he says. "It is 100 per cent concentration. You have got to focus on what you have worked on. You have got to stick with your technique. It is not like a hooker who can blame the lineout if he does not throw the ball straight or a winger who can call a bad pass. You are exposed. The game is stopped. Everything is focussed on you. You are centre stage."

Enter Jonathan Callard.

MICHAEL POWELL



Callard is eager to get to grips with the All Blacks on England's behalf

SPORT IN BRIEF

Record books chart Smith's progress

LAWRIE Smith's yacht, Intrum Justitia, swept back into the lead of the Whitbread 60 fleet with a record 24-hour run of 375.2 miles yesterday on a day of excitement and high drama in the Whitbread Round the World Race (Barry Pickthall writes). The drama occurred on Grant Dalton's leading maxi, New Zealand Endeavour, when the bowman, Craig Watson, was given an involuntary ducking while hanging from the end of the yacht's spinnaker pole during a change of sail.

"The pole dipped into the water with Watson on the end of it and he was dragged underwater at 15 knots for about 60 seconds before we could winch the pole out of the water and get him back on board," Dalton said. Intrum Justitia was yesterday placed level with Javier de la Gandara's Spanish entry, Galicia '93, and Tokio, skippered by Chris Dickson, 13 miles behind Dalton. The three shared a 28-mile lead over Brad Butterworth's American 60-footer, Winston.

Watson leads way

GOLF: Tom Watson showed yesterday, at the Dunlop Phoenix tournament in Miyazaki, Japan, that, at 44, he is still raging against the dying of the competitive light. It is six years since Watson, a former Open, US Masters and US Open champion, won a title of note, but a first round of 65 may change that. He collected nine birdies and used his putter only 25 times. On 66, David Frost, who won last year, was sharing second place with Scott Simpson and two of Japan's most successful players, Tommy Nakajima and Jumbo Ozaki. Barry Lane, a Briton who is confirming himself as a Japanese specialist, is one stroke further back.

Siddall's surprise

TENNIS: Shirli-Ann Siddall, of Britain, pulled off a stunning victory over Svetlana Parhomenko, the top seed, in the quarter-finals of the LTA women's satellite tournament in Swansea yesterday. Siddall, 19, from Bournemouth, took one hour 23 minutes to defeat the Russian 6-4, 6-3 and will meet Jitka Dubcova, of the Czech Republic, in today's semi-final. When she played Parhomenko at Bracknell last month, Siddall won only one game. The other three British players in the tournament — Caroline Billingham, Ginny Humphreys-Davies and Jo Ward — all lost.

Cash incentive

JUDO: Women will compete for prize-money for the first time in the United Kingdom at the Ulster Milk Games in Ards, Northern Ireland, today. The rewards, however, are modest: Nicola Fairbrother, winner of the world lightweight title last month and one of several outstanding entries, said the £500 first prize would cover roughly half her training expenses for a year. Instead of the customary seven categories for men and women, there are only three apiece today. Sharon Rendle and Kate Howey, who won Olympic medals in 1992, have also entered the women's competition.

Foster chasing clock

SWIMMING: Mark Foster and Sarah Hardcastle, both originally coached by Mike Higgs at Southend, should play leading roles at the Speedo British grand prix meeting at Leicester over the next three days. The compact and deep pool at St Margaret's baths and a quality entry will afford the right conditions for those hoping for late qualification for the inaugural world short-course championships, at Palma de Majorca in a fortnight. Foster, his place already booked, will undoubtedly chase fast times; anything quicker than 22.30sec will provide him with a psychological boost.

Freeman sets record

RUGBY LEAGUE: New Zealand have made six changes from the side that lost to Great Britain three weeks ago for Sunday's international against France in Carcassonne. The side includes only two England-based players — Kevin Iro, of Leeds, and Tony Kemp, of Castleford. Gary Freeman, who replaces Aaron Whittaker at scrum half, wins a record 37th cap. Leeds, without a win in seven matches, hope to sign Jason Donohue, the Leigh scrum half, for £100,000. In the key championship game of the season so far, Bradford Northern face Wigan at Odsal tonight.

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WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 48

FILICIDE
(c) One who kills a son or a daughter, a slayer of his own child, or the act of killing a child, from the Latin *filius* son, *filia* daughter + *occidere*/*caedere* to kill: "Fearful of being discovered by the intended filicide." "Of course one loves one's children dearly. But occasionally, when one's desk has been ransacked again, one's thoughts tend wistfully to filicide."

GANSEL
(a) A garlic sauce, used especially for a goose, adaptation of OF *ganse aillie* some sort of garlic sauce: "Thy goose is good, thy gansel sowre as gall."

LEAM
(a) To shell nuts, to free nuts from their husks, from *leam* and *limb*. British dialect for the husk of a nut: "The wud sae gay, whar mony a day I leamed nuts wi' thee."

MOONACK
(c) The ground-hog or woodchuck, *Arctomys monax*, adaptation of the Lenape *monachgeu*, from *monham* to dig. The name is applied to a mythical animal supposed to have a baneful influence. "The poor negro who meets it is doomed. Experienced negroes say when they look at him: 'He gwine to to die; he seed the moonack'."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

Black powers through with 1 ... Rxg2+! 2 Kxg2 Qxf3+ 3 Kg1 Qg2 mate.

Simon shows no sign of easing up

FROM JENNY MACARTHUR IN BERLIN

HUGO Simon, of Austria, victorious in Denmark last week, maintained his winning form when he rode Amaretto D to the fastest round in the marathon opening speed class at the Volvo World Cup show here yesterday.

Simon, 51, the winner of the inaugural Volvo World Cup in 1979 and an Olympic team silver medal in Barcelona, has been at the top of the sport for more than 20 years. Like David Broome, he shows no sign of retiring.

Yesterday he and Amaretto produced a copybook round to finish the 12-fence course a fraction ahead of Markus Fuchs, of Switzerland, on Rosee des Pres. The world champion, Eric Navet, of France, put up a spirited challenge on Rosire to finish in third place.

Michael Whitaker was the best of the three Britons in the class, though he had to work hard to achieve his eighth place on Everest Lifestyle. Broome, who attempts a second World Cup win on Lannegan in the qualifier tomorrow, produced a stylish round on Feedback to finish ninth.

Many of the 78 riders used the class as a warm-up for the richer competitions to come. Whitaker was among the culprits on his World Cup horse, Everest Two Step, going so slowly he incurred a quarter of a time fault. His older brother, John, had a similar schooling round with Everest Grannusch.

It was left to the German horse, Folklore, to enliven the drawn-out class. He deposited his rider, Tjark Nagel, on the floor at the fifth fence and then galloped flat out round the arena for several minutes, avoiding the feeble attempts to capture him.

The innovative Berlin Championship today carries a first prize of £4,000. Under a new formula, designed to enliven the sport, the riders have been put into 11 teams of four. Each team includes one of the leading 11 riders at the show. The best rider in each group goes through to the jump-off.

Michael Whitaker, who has relegated his brother to second place in the World Rider Rankings, gave his approval yesterday. "It should make it more exciting. It's good to see something different being introduced," he said.

RESULT: Der Tagesspiegel Prize: 1, Amaretto D (H Simon, Austria), 0 in 54.28 seconds; 2, Rosee des Pres (M Fuchs, Switzerland), 0 in 54.42; 3, Rosire (E Navet, France), 0 in 54.98. Best British rider: 8, Everest Lifestyle (M Whitaker), 0 in 57.13

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BBC1

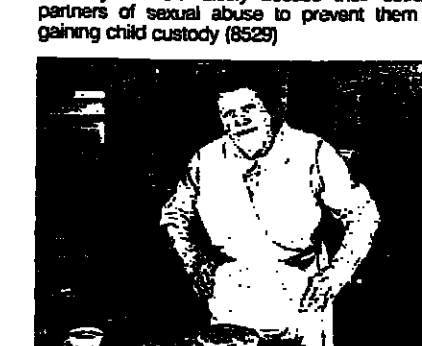
6.00 Business Breakfast (50242)
7.00 Breakfast News (52779451)
9.05 Kilroy (s) (9217277) **9.45 Newshound.** Current affairs quiz (s) (1669819)
10.00 News. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather (3933426) **10.05 Playdays** (r) (s) (6347068)
10.30 Good Morning ... with Anne and Nick. Weekday magazine programme (78529364)
12.15 Pebble Mill Judi Spiers is joined by Wayne Dobson and Michael Parkinson (s) (2455432) **12.55 Regional news** (76492364)
1.00 One O'Clock News. (Ceefax) Weather (81093)
1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (42324451)
1.50 The Travel Quiz. Andi Peters presents the first programme in a new series (s) (27141703)
2.20 Holiday reports from the Seychelles, Minorca and Dartmoor (r). (Ceefax) (59956703)
2.50 The Flying Doctors. (Ceefax) (s) (8208987)
3.45 Children's BBC: Dooby Duck's Euro Tour (r) (s) (7061161) **3.50 Philbert the Frog** (s) (3124267) **3.55 Superbods.** (Ceefax) (s) (2615838) **4.10 The Animals of Farthing Wood** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (4108161) **4.35 Take Two.** Andi Peters investigates the future of children's radio (s) (1500819) **5.00 Newsround** (1412258) **5.10 Byker Grove** Children's drama series. (Ceefax) (2011451)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (137529). **Northern Ireland:** Inside Ulster
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Peter Sissons and Moira Stuart. (Ceefax) Weather (703)
6.30 Regional News Magazines (155). **Northern Ireland:** Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s)
7.00 Tomorrow's World. Even though it is seven years since the Chernobyl disaster, parts of Britain are still contaminated, and sheep with satellite trackers are being used to seek out the hot spots. Plus autostereograms, the latest craze to hit America and Japan. (Ceefax) (s) (4567)
7.30 Dr Who and the Daleks. Episode three of this six-part story celebrating the good doctor's thirtieth anniversary. With Jon Pertwee (r) (567)
8.00 *Bruce Forsyth's Generation Game.* Family game show. (Ceefax) (s) (6068)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Martyn Lewis (Ceefax). Regional news and weather (7258)


Cruise and Hoffman as brothers (9.30pm)

9.30 FILM: Rain Man (1988). Dustin Hoffman won a well-deserved Oscar for his brilliant portrayal of an autistic savant who is taken away from a mental institution by his yuppie brother (Tom Cruise). Directed by Barry Levinson (90602635). **Northern Ireland:** Children in Need (110529); 9.35 Anderson on the Box (2321068); 10.45-12.55am FILM: Rain Man (42082722). **Wales:** Between Ourselves (85258); 10.00 FILM: Rain Man (98807093)
11.40 FILM: April Fool's Day (1986). A practical joker invites a group of college friends to spend the weekend at her family's island mansion. Starring Deborah Foreman. Directed by Fred Walton (637529). **Northern Ireland:** 12.55am-2.10 FILM: I Was a Teenage Frankenstein (6121198). **Wales:** 12.10-1.35 FILM: April Fool's Day (3234556)
1.05am FILM: Cat's Eye (1985). A trilogy of Stephen King horror stories. Starring Drew Barrymore and James Woods. Directed by Lewis Teague (235198). **Wales:** 1.35-3.05 FILM: Cat's Eye (7038440)
2.40 Weather (6757169). *Ends at 2.45*

BBC2

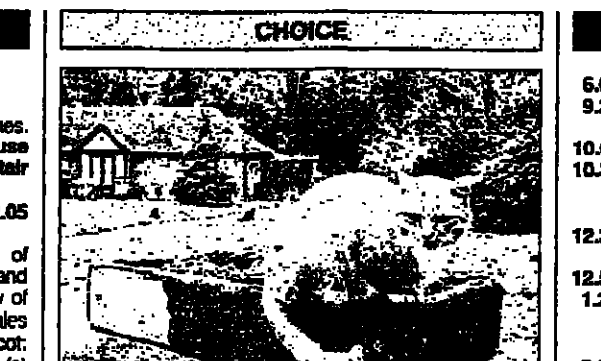
8.00 Breakfast News (9544616)
8.15 Westminster Daily (1768646)
9.00 Daytime on Two. Educational programmes. Including, for children: **1.20 Fingermouse** (81609838) and **1.35 Crystal Tipps and Alistair** (96392093)
2.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (90152971) **2.05 Words and Pictures** (s) (14013971)
2.15 Sport on Friday. Rugby Union. a preview of tomorrow's international between Scotland and New Zealand at Murrayfield; Football: A review of this week's World Cup ties involving England, Wales and the Republic of Ireland; Racing from Ascot: coverage of the **2.40, 3.10** and **3.40** races (s) (961161) **3.50 News.** (Ceefax) Regional news and weather (7984068)
4.00 Catchword with Paul Coia (s) (628)
4.30 A Cook's Tour of France (r). (Ceefax) (180)
5.00 Today's the Day. History quiz (2345)
5.30 Top Gear takes a look at the exotic vehicles that cruise over Albert Bridge, in London, every Saturday night (r). (Ceefax) (s) (432)
6.00 Captain Scarlet and the Mysterons. The Mysterons target Colonel White. (Ceefax) (549616)
6.25 The Man from Uncle. Illya is disguised as a yeti. (Ceefax) (519451)
7.15 The Living Soap. Fly-on-the-wall look at the lives of six students sharing a house in Manchester (s) (132703) **7.45 What the Papers Say** (441180)
8.00 Public Eye: Divorce's Deadliest Weapon. Richard Lindley reports on a disturbing trend whereby women falsely accuse their estranged partners of sexual abuse to prevent them from gaining child custody (8529)


Ruth Mott with her wartime cake (8.30pm)

8.30 CHOICE **The Wartime Kitchen and Garden.** (Ceefax) (s) (5744)
9.00 Bottom. Outrageous comedy written by and starring Adrian Edmondson and Rik Mayall (r). (Ceefax) (s) (5600)
9.30 CHOICE **The Team — A Season with McLaren.** (Ceefax) (s) (95600)
10.00 Have I Got News for You. Angus Deayton, Ian Hislop and Paul Merton are joined by Frank Bough and Jo Brand (73971)
10.30 Newsnight. (Ceefax) (846345)
11.15 The Larry Sanders Show. The first in a new satirical comedy series starring Garry Shandling (s) (339635). **Wales:** Welsh Lobby (422838)
11.40 Weather (615987). **Wales:** 11.45-12.10am The Larry Sanders Show (107187)
11.45 FILM: Casual Sex? (1988). Engaging comedy starring Lea Thompson and Victoria Jackson as two friends looking for romance at a health spa. Directed by Genevieve Robert (9322819). Ends at **1.15am. Wales:** 12.15am FILM: Casual Sex? Ends at 1.40 (3231469)

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CHOICE


Saving just one of a cat's nine lives (C4, 8.00pm)

Short Stories: It's a Cat's Life
Channel 4, 8.00pm

Our reputation as a nation of cat lovers takes a knock with the revelation in this film that we abandon some 200,000 of them every year. Many are rescued and found a home by the Cat Protection League, which has 200 branches and an annual budget of £2 million, all bequeathed by people who apparently like cats more than their relatives. Not all the cats are abandoned callously. The recession has meant that an increasing number of owners can no longer afford to look after them. The programme offers the statistic that a female cat can set off a chain of reproduction resulting in 20,000 cats in five years. Not surprisingly the Cat Protection League is keen to promote neutering, though not all owners are willing to respond.

The Team — A Season with McLaren
BBC2, 9.30pm

McLaren's motor racing season reaches the Canadian Grand Prix and it is a chance for the second string driver, Michael Andretti, to redeem his poor start. A former American Indycar champion, Andretti has yet to make his mark on Formula One, finishing in only two of his six races. Ron Dennis, the McLaren boss, is "disappointed" but neutral observers may conclude that the fault lies as much with the car as the driver. The technology looks wonderful, what with onboard computers and the like, but keeps failing at the wrong time. It is hardly Andretti's fault that the electrical system packs up on the starting line. This continues to be a crisp and well-made series that should appeal well beyond the circle of motor racing fans.

Demob
ITV, 9.00pm

Griff Rhys Jones and Alec Clunes, as the aspiring entertainers in austerity Britain, reach the end of their respective roads in a series which promised more than it ultimately delivered. Part of the trouble has been a meandering narrative. More fundamentally, a show billed as a comedy-drama has never quite decided how seriously we were meant to take it. Moments of pure knockabout, helped along by the splendid Les Dawson in his last screen role, have sat awkwardly with storylines about adultery, sodomy and failure. James Faulkner's dodgy middle-European impresario has been a rank caricature against Amanda Redman's truthful and rounded study of the unhappy wife. Yet there has still been much to enjoy.

The Wartime Kitchen and Garden
BBC2, 8.30pm

It is June 1940. Churchill is on the wireless, the battle of Britain rages in the skies and housewives are urged to give up their pots and pans for aircraft production. This irresistible series continues to be as much social history as demonstrations of cookery and gardening, though the one merges seamlessly into the other. Because of wartime shortages, chocolate puddings have to be made without eggs and grated carrot is used as a sweetening agent. The homely Ruth Mott shows how. She also bakes a 1940 wedding cake. With icing banned, a cardboard and plastic cover serves as decoration. Meanwhile, dear old Harry Dodson instructs his land girl, Annie, in the back-straining *technique of double digging.* **Peter Waymark**

ITV LONDON

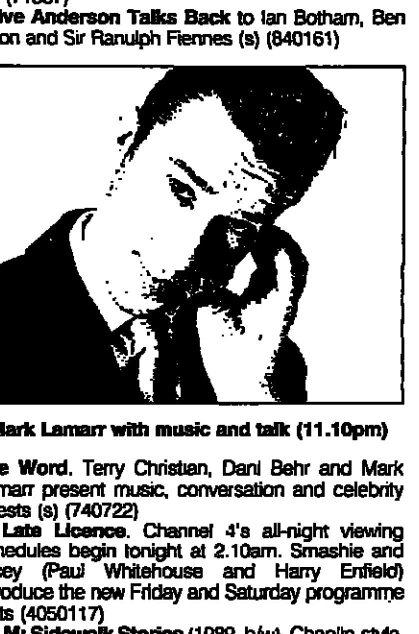
6.00 GMTV (8090364)
9.25 Supermarket Sweep. Another trolley dash (s) (7699513) **9.55 London Today** (6429616)
10.00 The Time ... The Place ... (s) (3536838)
10.35 This Morning. Weekday magazine presented by Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan (78513703) **12.20 London Today** (Teletext) (7327258)
12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (Teletext) and weather (9358180)
12.55 Coronation Street (r). (9260971)
1.25 Home and Away. Angel humiliates Shane. (Teletext) (30619529) **1.55 A Country Practice.** Kate Byrant reveals a secret (s) (42329906)
2.20 Capital Woman. Anneka Rice and Stephen Gardner examine stress management and different ways of giving birth (s) (59878971)
2.50 Take the High Road (7497432)
3.20 ITN News headlines (4668567) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (4667838)
3.30 Children's ITV: Alphabet Castle (s) (2607819) **3.40 Tots TV** (s) (7088838) **3.50 Scooby Doo** (7077722) **4.00 Astro Farm.** (Teletext) (s) (1624242) **4.15 The Legends of Treasure Island** (s) (4029600)


Kennedy and Norgate cast spells (4.40pm)

4.40 Knightmare. Wizard Hordriss (Clifford Norgate) and sorceress Sidriss (Iona Kennedy) guide contestants in the adventure game (s) (5315635)
5.10 Home and Away (r) (Teletext) (2295906)
5.40 ITN Early Evening News with John Suchet (Teletext) and weather (763093)
6.00 London Tonight. (Teletext) (96839)
7.00 Family Fortunes. Quiz show presented by Les Dennis (s) (9635)
7.30 Coronation Street. Curly makes a confession to *Elaine Fenwick and Raquel hits back at Tanya.* (Teletext) (635)
8.00 Beadle's About. Prankster Jeremy Beadle targets more unsuspecting members of the public (2155)
8.30 Second Thoughts. Marital comedy series starring James Bolam and Lynda Bellingham. Bill takes Faith to visit his mother (Gudrun Ure) in Scotland. (Teletext) (s) (7890)
9.00 CHOICE **Demob.** Last in the comedy-drama series. (Teletext) (s) (4600)
10.00 News at Ten with Trevor McDonald (Teletext) and weather (77797) **10.30 London Tonight** (Teletext) and weather (604451)
10.40 The London Programme. Trevor Phillips presents a report on the defrauding of London's councils (285664)
11.10 Tour of Duty. Vietnam war drama (r) (926600)
12.05am Dial Midnight. Wendy Lloyd and Bob Mills presents a live phone-in, with comedy, music and controversy (s) (4452575)
1.05 The ITV Chart Show. Go West perform their hit, "We Close Our Eyes" (s) (6373681)
2.05 Londoners. Viewers from the capital offer their outlook on life (6158020). Followed by **Get Stuffed.** Late-night snacks
3.10 Whale On. Late-night entertainment with James Whale (3637372)
4.15 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema. The latest film news from Hollywood (5988759). Followed by **Out of Limits.** Sporting achievements
5.00 Riviera. French drama serial (80662)
5.30 ITN Morning News *(88643). Ends at 6.00*

CHANNEL 4

6.30 Jayce and the Wheeled Warriors (r) (1111074) **6.50 The Wombles** (r) (2836345)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (71616)
9.00 You Bet Your Life Quiz show (r) (50074)
9.30 Schools: Eureka! (1657074) **9.45** Stop, Look, Listen (5397277) **10.02** Power and Politics in the Modern World (6437635) **10.23** Picture Box (1646600) **10.40** Off Limits (8046109) **11.05** Choices (9941109) **11.22** Stage One (7794600) **11.40** How We Used to Live (5478258)
12.00 House to House. Political analysis (70838)
12.30 Sesame Street. The guest is singer Patti Labelle (20068) **1.30 Kaboodle** (r) (80703)
2.00 FILM: Walk East on Beacon (1952, b/w) Dated semi-documentary-style Cold War thriller starring George Murphy as an FBI man on the trail of Russian spies. Directed by Alfred Werker (262277)
3.45 Mind the Steps. Cartoon, by Istvan Orosz, about a Hungarian tower block (7078451)
3.55 Travelog Peter McCarthy visits Louisiana (r). (Teletext) (s) (3353093)
4.30 Fifteen-to-One. Quickfire general knowledge quiz. (Teletext) (s) (548)
5.00 Cutting Edge (r). (Teletext) (6548)
6.00 Hangin' with Mr Cooper. Robin feels left out as Mark and Vanessa grow closer. (Teletext) (s) (513)
6.30 Happy Days Nostalgic comedy. (Teletext) (203)
7.00 Channel 4 News. The poet laureate Ted Hughes talks to Nicholas Glass about his children's fable, *The Iron Man.* (Teletext) (172364)
7.50 First Reaction. Harry Ritchie, literary editor of the *Sunday Times*, discusses the cultural impact of the World Cup qualifying matches (s) (621884)
8.00 CHOICE **Short Stories: It's a Cat's Life.** (Teletext) (9187)
8.30 Brookside. (Teletext) (s) (5432)
9.00 Plant Life. Pruning. (Teletext) (7068)
9.30 Cheers. Sam (Ted Danson) needs to hire a new barmaid and Carla (Rhea Perlman) thinks she knows just the person (r) (Teletext) (95628)
10.00 Nurses. Hank plans a Superbowl party. (Teletext) (s) (71567)
10.30 Clive Anderson Talks Back to Ian Botham, Ben Elton and Sir Ranulph Fiennes (s) (840161)


Mark Lamarr with music and talk (11.10pm)

11.10 The Word. Terry Christian, Dani Behr and Mark Lamarr present music, conversation and celebrity guests (s) (740722)
12.10am Late Licence. Channel 4's all-night viewing schedules begin tonight at 2.10am. Smashie and Nicey (Paul Whitehouse and Harry Enfield) introduce the new Friday and Saturday programme slots (4050117)
12.20 FILM: Sidewalk Stories (1989, b/w). Chaplin-style, virtually-silent, comedy. A homeless New York street artist, played by writer and director Charles Lane, befriends a little girl (Nicole Alysia) after witnessing her father's murder (s) (601681)
2.10-5.05 Late Licence. Introduced by Smashie and Nicey (5758488)
2.15 Ready Steady Go! Sixties pop music show, featuring the Beatles (r) (7794391)
2.50 Naked City. Caitlin Moran introduces the music show (r) (s) (4012865)
3.55 The Clangers. Cartoon (r) (35417488)
4.05 Seal in Concert. From Dublin (r) (s) (9145914). *Ends at 5.05*

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW. **4.00am** Bruno Brookes (FM only) **7.00** Mark Goodier **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.30pm** Newsbeat **12.45** Jakki Brambles **3.00** Steve Wright **6.00** News 93 **6.30** Pete Tong's Essential Selection **10.00** John Peel (FM only from 12.00) **1.00-4.00am** Mark Tonderai (FM only)

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **5.00** Sarah Kennedy with the Early Show incl. **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.05** Wake up to Wogan incl. **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Edwina Currie **2.00** Gloria Hunniford **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Maestro: Musical quiz with Richard Stilgoe **7.30** Friday Night is Music Night **8.45** Noriko Ogawa ... at the piano **9.00** Listen to the Band **10.00** Radio 2 Arts Programme **12.05am** Digby Fairweather **1.00-5.00am** Jon Briggs with Nightride. Incl at **1.30** and **3.30** Pause for Thought

RADIO 5

6.00am World Service **6.30** Morning Edition **9.00** For Schools **9.15** Playtime **9.30** Music Box **9.45** Something to Think About **10.00** Music Workshop **10.25** Johnnie Walker incl. at **11.30** Wiggly Park **12.30** It's My Life (r) **1.00** News and Sport **1.10** The Crunch **2.30** BFBS Worldwide **4.05** John Inverdale's Drive-in **6.30** WICR . See Choice **7.15** Sniff Bounces Back **7.30** Popcall **8.30** Euromix **9.30** 20th-Century Vampire **10.10** Rave **12.00-12.10am** News; Sport

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. **4.30am** BBC English **4.45** News and Press Review in German **5.00** Morgenmagazin: Tips für Touristen **5.30** Europe Today **6.00** News **6.10** British News **6.15** The World Today **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** Newsdesk **7.30** At Least They Tried **8.00** World News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Music Review **9.00** News **9.05** World Business Report **9.15** Global Concerns **9.30** On the Move **9.45** Sports Roundup **10.00** News Summary **10.01** Focus on Faith **10.30** Broadway Lights **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **Noon** World News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** At Least They Tried **12.45** Sports Roundup **1.00** Newshour **2.00** World News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Off the Shelf: *The Master* **2.45** Global Concerns **3.00** World News **3.15** Music Review **4.00** *World News* **4.10** *British News* **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Heute Aktuell **5.00** World News **5.05** World Business Report **5.15** BBC English **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Heute Aktuell **7.00** Nachrichten **7.05** Kaleidoskop **8.00** World News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The World Today **8.30** Europe Today **9.00** Newshour **10.00** World News **10.10** British News **10.15** People and Politics **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.00** World News **11.05** World Business Report **11.15** Worldbrief **11.30** Multitrack 3 **Midnight** Newsdesk **12.30am** From the Weeklies **12.45** The Learning World **1.00** World News **1.05** Outlook **1.30** Short Story: The Traveller **1.45** Jazz Now and Then **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** People and Politics **3.00** World News **3.10** British News **3.15** Sports Roundup **3.30** The Vintage Chart Show **4.00** News **4.15** Good Books

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Joan Thirkettle **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto. Beethoven (Violin Concerto in D: Hanover Band under Roy Goodman) **3.00** Petroc Trelawny **6.00** Classic Reports with Margaret Howard **7.00** Classic Verdict **8.00** Evening Concert. Mikhail Ippolitov-Ivanov (Symphony in E minor. Singapore Symphony Orchestra under Choo Hoey) **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00-6.00am** Robert Booth

VIRGIN 1215

6.00am Russ and Jono **10.00** Richard Skinner **1.00pm** Kevin Greening **4.00** Tommy Vance **7.00** Emperor Rosko **10.00** Nick Abbot **2.00am** Paul Coyle

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 1.55pm A Country Practice (42329906) **2.20-2.50** Gardening Time (59878971) **3.25-3.30** Anglia News (4667838) **5.10-5.40** Travel Trails (2295906) **6.00** Home and Away (483242) **6.25-7.00** Anglia News (492345) **10.30** Anglia News (695703) **10.45** FILM: The Heist (19282109) **1.05am** Whale On (6373681) **2.05** Raw Power (9806914) **3.05** Entertainment UK (9256759) **4.00** Get Wet (33391) **4.30** Riviera (19662) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (80662)

CENTRAL
As London except: 1.55pm Shortland Street (42329906) **2.20-2.50** Material World (59878971) **3.25-3.30** Central News (4667838) **5.10-5.40** Movies, Games and Videos (2295906) **6.00** Home and Away (483242) **6.25-7.00** Central News (492345) **10.30** Central News (604451) **10.40** Central Weekend (6211884) **12.10am** Tropical Heat (4451846) **1.10** Whale On (6372952) **2.10** The Beat (9805285) **3.10** Entertainment UK (9246372) **4.05** Jobfinder (3865001) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (7988335)

HTV WEST
As London except: 1.55pm A Country Practice (42329906) **2.20-3.20** Highway to Heaven (5087242) **6.00** HTV News and Weather (971) **6.30-7.00** HTV Sportsweek (451) **10.30** HTV News and Weather (604451) **10.40** Late and Live (6211884) **12.10am** Beverly Hills, 90210 (4461223) **1.05** Whale On (6373681) **2.05** Raw Power (9806914) **3.05** Entertainment UK (9256759) **4.00** Get Wet (33391) **4.30** Riviera (19662) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (80662)

HTV WALES
As HTV WEST except: 6.00pm Wales at Six (971) **6.30-7.00** Get Going (451) **10.40** The Mal Pope Story (879068) **11.40** The Big Story (756068) **12.10am** Married With Children (7482372) **12.35-1.05** Billy (8728575)

MERIDIAN
As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Meridian News (6429616) **12.20pm-12.30** Meridian News (7327258) **1.55** A Country Practice (42329906) **2.20** Take the High Road (59878971) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (7497432) **3.25-3.30** Meridian News and Weather (4667838) **5.37-5.40** Three Minutes — The Listings (198426) **6.00-7.00** Meridian Tonight (96839) **10.30** Meridian News and Weather (604451) **10.40** Married With Children (285664) **11.10** Late Night Live (546513) **11.55** Sledge Hammer (841180) **12.25am** Whale On (4440730) **1.25** Cinema, Cinema (6656556) **1.55** Raw Power (7600285) **2.55** Cue the Music (3825865) **3.55** Sprockets (6958682) **4.30** The Art of the Landscape (19662) **5.00-5.30** Freescreen

TYNE-TEES
As London except: 1.55pm A Country Practice (42329906) **2.20** Murder, She Wrote (3175426) **3.10** Help Yourself (4566155) **3.15-3.20** Five Minutes (4565426) **3.25-3.30** Tyne Tees News (4667838) **5.55** Tyne Tees Today (155277) **6.30-7.00** Wedpal's World (451) **10.30** Tyne Tees News (604451) **10.40** Kielder Water (285664) **11.10** FILM: The Biggest Bank Robbery (657819) **1.05am** Whale On (6373681) **2.05** The Big E (9825049) **3.00** FILM: Passionate Summer (625643) **4.55** Get Wet (39261204) **5.20-5.30** Get Stuffed (7988335)

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 1.55pm The Sullivans (27062242) **2.25** Gardener's Diary (59877242) **2.55-3.20** A Country Practice (3215168) **3.25-3.30** Westcountry Latest (4667838) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (96839) **10.40** FILM: A Lovely Way to Go (90941906) **12.30am** Love and War (68933) **1.00** My Story (7350730) **1.05** Whale On (6373681) **2.05** Raw Power (9806914) **3.05** Entertainment UK (9256759) **4.00** Get Wet (33391) **4.30** Riviera (19662) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (80662)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 12.20pm-12.30 Calendar News (7327258) **1.55** A Country Practice (42329906) **2.20** Murder, She Wrote (3175426) **3.10** Help Yourself (4566155) **3.15-3.20** Five Minutes (4565426) **3.25-3.30** Calendar News (4667838) **5.55** Calendar (155277) **6.30-7.00** Calendar Fashion (451) **10.30** Calendar News (604451) **10.40** Married With Children (285664) **11.10** FILM: The Biggest Bank Robbery (657819) **1.05am** Whale On (6373681) **2.05** The Big E (9825049) **3.00** FILM: Passionate Summer (625643) **4.55** Get Wet (39261204) **5.20-5.30** Get Stuffed (7988335)

S4C
Starts: 7.00am The Big Breakfast (71616) **9.00** You Bet Your Life (50074) **9.30** Schools (251635) **12.00pm** House to House (70838) **12.30** Slot Meithrin (81432) **1.00** FILM: Till The Clouds Roll By (177109) **3.30** The Talking Show (529) **4.00** Slot 23 (1884) **5.00** Trash Talk (4513) **5.30** Fifteen to One (600) **6.00** News (633529) **6.20** Cwlwm Serch (713884) **6.25** Heno (490987) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (7277) **7.30** Pelydr X (277) **8.00** Cannil O Gan (9187) **8.30** Newyddion (5432) **9.00** Ana (666884) **9.50** Blow Your Mind (291105) **10.00** Brookside (71567) **10.30** Clive Anderson Talks Back (840161) **11.10** The Word (740722) **12.10am** Late Licence (6739881) **12.15** FILM: Sidewalk Stories (Charles Lane and Nicole Alysia) (432391) **2.15** Ready Steady Go! (7794391) **2.50** Naked City (3824136) **3.50** The Clangers (25106223) **4.05** Seal In Concert (9145914)

RADIO 3

6.55am Weather **7.00 On Air**, with Andrew McGregor. Mozart (Horn Concerto No 2 in E flat, K417); Barber (Agnus Dei); Satie (Choses vues à droite et à gauche, sans lunettes; Arne (Concerto No 4 in B flat); Medtner (Dithyramb in E flat); Milhaud (La création du monde)
9.00 Composers of the Week: The Mannheim School, with David Wyn Jones. Anton Stamitz (Flute Concerto in D); Vogler (Variations and Capriccio on "Marlborough, s'en-va-t'en Guerre", excerpts); Peter von Winter (Sinfonia Concertante in B flat)
10.00 Musical Encounters, with Chris de Souza. **10.02** Brahms (Songs of the Fates, Op 89); **10.13** Kuchnau (Biblical Sonata No 2, Saul is Cured by David with the Aid of Music); **10.25**Mendelssohn (Psalm 95, Op 46); **10.53** Bach (Orchestral Suite No 4 in D, BWV 1069); **11.05** Beethoven (Symphony No 8 in F)
12.00 Voices: Ian Burnside with an anatomy lesson in song (r)
1.00pm News
1.05 St David's Hall Lunchtime Recital: New Chamber Ensemble of Wales performs Beethoven (Quintet in E flat for piano and wind, Op 16); Alun Hoddinott (Wind Quintet, first performance); Françaix (L'heure du berger)
2.10 Sir Eugene Goossens: Andrew Green examines the final phase of Goossens's career. Berlioz (Overture: Roman Carnival); Respighi (Fountains of Rome); Bach (Concerto in D minor for two violins, BWV 1043); Stravinsky (Symphony in Three Movements); Goossens (Divertissement); Rachmaninov (Symphonic Dances)
4.10 Janáček: Pianist Rudolf Firkusny plays Book II of *On an Overgrown Path*
4.30 A Mixtie-Maxtie: Scottish traditional songs (r)
5.00 In Tune, with Richard Baker. Massenet (March of the Princesses, Cendrillon); Purcell (Chacony in G minor); Mendelssohn (Piano Concerto No 1 in G minor)
6.50 Polska! Chopin (12 Etudes, Op 10)
7.30-12.30am Polska! Poland Now: See Choice
7.45 Polish Radio Concert: Szymanowski (String Quartet No 2, 1927); Zarebski (Piano Quintet) **8.45** A Musician's Lot: Adrian Thomas looks at the position of musicians in Poland **9.05** Bornus Consort and Instrumentalists perform Andrzej Krzanowski (Salve Regine); Penderecki (Ecloga VIII); Pawel Szymanski (Miserere)
9.50 Political Developments: Piotr Kowalczuk questions what the return of a reformed communist party to power really means. Followed at **10.20** by a live discussion
10.35 Fin-de-siècle (1993): A Polish Radio commission from Stanislaw Krupowicz. Performed by Polish Radio Symphony Orchestra, Katowice, under Takao Ukigaya
10.55 A Composer's Lot: Adrian Thomas talks to modern Polish composers
11.15 Warsaw Autumn Festival 1993: Roman Palester (Adagio for Strings); Lutoslawski (Symphony No 4, 1993); Szymanowski (Mythes)
12.30-12.35am News
1.00-2.25 Night School (Except in Scotland. As broadcast this am on R5)

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing, incl **6.03** Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.55** Weather **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News
9.05 Desert Island Discs: Sue Lawley talks to castaway Shirley Anne Field (r)
9.45 Feedback, with Chris Dunkley
10.00-10.30 No Further Questions? (FM only) Nicholas Stewart QC looks at a trial in 1823 when a joint suicide went wrong and the survivor was accused of murder. With David Thorpe, Therese Streatfeild and Melinda Walker
10.00 News; An Act of Worship (LW only)
10.15 The Bible (LW only): Jeremiah, introduced by Dr Dick France and read by Alan Bates (2/7)
10.30 Woman's Hour, *from Belfast.* Author Mollie Keane talks to Wendy Austin about her vision of Ireland. Incl **11.00 News**
11.30 The Natural History Programme, presented by Kelvin Boot
12.00 News; You and Yours, with Tasneem Siddiqi
12.25pm The Food Programme: Investigating the good, the bad and the tasteless **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke **1.40 The Archers** (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Classic Serial: The French Lieutenant's Woman. Last in the three-part dramatisation of John Fowles's novel (r)
3.00 News; Special Assignment
3.30 Your Place or Mine? Stories crossing boundaries of geography and generation (7 of 10)
4.00 News
4.05 Kaleidoscope: Tim Marlow visits the new galleries at the National Portrait Gallery to see an exhibition of contemporary portraiture
4.45 Short Story: Samphire by Patrick O'Brian. Read by Diana Bishop (r)
5.00 PM, with Chris Lowe and Hugh Sykes **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 *Going Places:* *Janet Trewin and Peter Macann explore the world of transport*
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Pick of the Week, with John Diamond
8.05 Any Questions? Chairman Jonathan Dimbleby is joined in Doncaster by Liz Lynne, Liberal Democrat health spokesperson; Geoff Mulgan, director of the independent think-tank DEMOS; John Redwood, the Secretary of State for Wales; and George Robertson, shadow Scottish secretary
8.50 Law in Action: Marcel Berlins looks at how developments in the law affect our lives
9.15 Kaleidoscope: The Pre-Fab Four (r)
9.45 Letter from America 9.59 Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtime: To the Lighthouse, by Virginia Woolf. Eileen Atkins reads the final part
11.00 Week Ending
11.25 The Financial Week, with Heather Payton
11.45 Today in Parliament
12.00-12.43am News, incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (LW only)

CHOICE

Polska! Poland Now. *Radio 3, 7.30pm.*
Radio 3's celebration of Polish arts and culture begins tonight. Until December 6, not a day will go by without music, plays, documentaries, features and poetry reminding us that this is the seventy-fifth anniversary of the reconstitution of Poland. Included in the 120 programmes will be virtually the complete piano works of Chopin. You will have to wait until December 2 for Gorecki's Symphony No 3, the classical best-seller, but altogether, 17 of his works will be heard. Tonight's programmes come live from Warsaw.

WICR. *Radio 5, 6.30pm.*
When Radio 5 gets the chop, what will happen to superior drama serials for youngsters like this one? The question needs to be asked, and asked again. BBC radio must not get away unchallenged with closing down the Radio 5 school of writers it has founded. *WICR* scripted by Allan Sutherland and Stuart Morris, is about the teething *troubles of a radio station at an international secondary school.* It is energetic, fresh and very well constructed. It is all about youth but its appeal is for all ages. **Peter Davalle**

RADIO 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m; FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2:** FM 88-90.2. **RADIO 3:** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4:** 198kHz/1515m; FM 92.4-94.6. **RADIO 5:** 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. **LBC:** 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. **CAPITAL:** 1548kHz/194m; FM 95.8. **GLR:** 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9; **WORLD SERVICE:** MW 648kHz/463m. **CLASSIC FM:** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN:** MW 1215, 1197, 1242 kHz. **COMPILED BY GILLIAN MAXEY AND HEATHER ALSTON**

SATELLITE

SKY ONE
6.00am The DJ Kat Show (50765364) **8.40** Lamb Chops Play-a-long (4217600) **9.10** Cartoons (9891432) **9.30** The Pyramid Game (47068) **10.00** Card Sharks (3303722) **10.25** Concentration (8636432) **10.50** Dynamo Duck (8446819) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (29277) **12.00** Urban Peasant (96890) **12.30pm** Paradise Beach (41884) **1.00** Barnaby Jones (42567) **2.00** Wheels (32123) **3.00** Another World (8622451) **3.45** The DJ Kat Show (8524722) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (9600) **6.00** Games World (6432) **6.30** Paradise Beach (4884) **7.00** Rescue (2659) **7.30** Growing Pains (4448) **8.00** WWF Mania (69258) **9.00** Cops (30258) **9.30** Code 3 (34548) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (82109) **11.00** The Untouchables (37242) **12.00** The Streets of San Francisco (28846) **1.00am** Night Court (86933) **1.30-2.00** Maniac Mansion (16662)

SKY NEWS
News on the hour
6.00am Sunrise Europe (70074) **9.30** ABC Nightline (77790) **10.30** Memories of 1970-91 (98068) **11.30** Japan Business Today (37168) **12.30pm** World News and Business Report (82884) **1.30** CBS This Morning (93513) **2.30** *Parliament Live* (88722) **3.30** The Lords (29426) **4.30** World News and Business Report (3109) **5.00** Live At Five (432548) **7.30** *FT* Report (4838) **8.00** News Hour (89722) **9.30** Talkback (91616) **11.30** CBS News (89432) **12.30am** ABC World News (55049) **1.30** Environment Report (24952) **2.30** Memories of 1970-91 (23372) **3.30** Talkback (35117) **4.30** Beyond 2000 (53952) **5.30** CBS News (93117)

SKY MOVIES
6.00am Showcase (8970068)
10.00 Kingdom of the Spiders (1977) William Shatner defends the earth (45600)
11.55 The Russians Are Coming! The Russians Are Coming! (1966): Cold war comedy (18604703)
2.00pm Against a Crooked Sky (1975). A girl is kidnapped by Indians (66161)
4.00 Darling Lili (1970): An American GI and a spy meet and fall in love (7432)
6.00 Kingdom of the Spiders (as 10am) (80797)
8.00 The Pope Must Die (1991): Robbie Coltrane becomes Pope (24250722)
9.40 US Top Ten (396987)
10.00 Midnight Ride (1992) A woman tries to escape her husband and picks up a serial killer hitch-hiker (194890)
11.35 Bloodfist III – Forced To Fight (1991): A kick-boxer protects his friend in prison (662180)
1.05am Willie and Phil (1980): A menage-a-trois try to live together (280407)
3.00 Double Edge (1992): Susan Lucci plays two women, an FBI agent and a paid assassin (61310)
4.30 Abby My Love *(1989): A girl is haunted by the abuse she suffered as a child* (9439594). Ends at **5.20am**

SKY MOVIES GOLD
6.00pm Angels With Dirty Faces (1938): James Cagney and Pat O'Brien play childhood friends (51277)
8.00 The Outlaw (1943): Howard Hughes's western starring Jane Russell (56722)
10.00 Dawn of the Dead (1979). Zombies in a shopping centre (34068). Ends at **12.00**

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
6.00am Down Three Dark Streets (1954): Broderick Crawford is assigned to clear up his dead partner's cases (44345)
8.00 Alice in Wonderland (1988): Lewis Carroll's animated classic (17600)
9.00 Black Beauty (1987): Animated version of Anna Sewell's horse story (22971)
10.00 Red Riding Hood (1988). Brothers Grimm fairy story (43242)
12.00 The King and Four Queens (1956). Clark Gable searches for a rich woman (82258)
2.00pm Wings of Fame (1990): Peter O'Toole meets his murderer (317682)
4.00 Alice in Wonderland (as 8am) (54884)
5.00 Black Beauty (as 9am) (5838)
6.00 Pink Lightning (1991): Five women take to the road in a pink Cadillac (84567)
8.00 Leaving Normal (1992): Christine Lahti and Meg Tilly learn there is more to life than a loveless marriage and a tedious job (83684)
10.00 Sometimes They Come Back (1991): Tim Matheson returns to his home town after 27 years (208432)
11.45 Iron Maze (1991): Jeff Fahey investigates the attempted murder of a Japanese businessman (951432)
1.30am Miami Blues (1990): Fred Ward plays an itinerant policeman who has his badge stolen (670407)
3.05 Death Valley (1982): A boy witnesses a murder on the way to visiting his mother (9419933). Ends at **4.30**

SKY SPORTS
7.00am Soccer News (5834068) **7.15** Prime Bodies (336432) **7.45** NHRA Drag Racing (335703) **8.15** Soccer News (3838109) **8.30** ATP Tennis (66258) **9.00** Prime Bodies (80838) **9.30** Boots 'n All (67600) **10.30** Watersports World (29906) **11.30** Best of British Motorsport (52068) **12.30pm** FIA Rally Championships (23722) **1.30** Football: Argentina v Australia (79277) **3.00** World Sports Special (7838) **3.30** ATP Tennis (258068) **6.00** Soccer Weekend (96987) **7.00** The Big League (263762) **9.30** US PGA Golf (18819) **11.00** Soccer Weekend (59432) **12.00-2.00am** ATP Tennis (59730)

EUROSPORT
7.30am Step Aerobics (54987) **8.00** Show Jumping from Athens (48548) **9.00** American Ice Hockey NHL (53819) **10.00** Eurosko (70971) **11.00** Football 1994 World Cup (34838) **12.30pm** Tennis ATP (51744) **1.00** Rythmic Gymnastics (34635) **3.00** Figure Skating (37093) **4.30** Synchro Swimming from Mons (53074) **5.30** Motorsport Report (51180) **6.30** News (8242) **7.00** Tennis WTA Masters from New York (55616) **9.00** Figure Skating from Paris (82635) **10.30** American Football NFL (72819) **11.00** American Ice Hockey NHL (56161) **12.30** News (57223)

UK GOLD
7.00am GP (4970971) **7.30** Neighbours (4062906) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (7220548) **8.30** EastEnders (7229819) **9.00** The Bill (7130971) **9.30** All Creatures Great and Small (2221703) **10.30** Casualty (5587155) **11.30** Rhoda (9012074) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (7223635) **12.30pm** Neighbours (1494432) **1.00** EastEnders (4979242) **1.30** The Bill (1493703) **2.00** Are You Being Served (8004971) **2.30** Bread (5919488) **3.00** Dallas (9016890) **4.00** Dynasty (9939797) **5.00** Blankety Blank (8191451) **5.30** Give Us a Clue (6829664) **6.00** Neighbours (9079187) **6.30** EastEnders (6025267) **7.00** All Creatures Great and Small (9483426) **8.00** Are You Being Served? (8197635) **8.30** Bread (8003242) **9.00** Casualty (9585838) **10.00** The Bill (7224364) **10.30** Rory Bremner (7137884) **11.00** Top of the Pops (4069819) **12.00** Dr Who: The Invasion Of Earth (5867285) **12.30am** FILM: The Outfit (1974): An ex-convict wants to get even (9532488) **2.20-3.00am** Shopping at Night (7965778)

CHILDREN'S CHANNEL
6.00am RatKan II (251839) **9.00** Jack in the Box (98249) **11.00** Stories Without Words (36426) **11.30** Say Ahhh! (37155) **12.00** Fame (58797) **1.00pm** Jack in the Box (98285) **3.00** The Care Bears (1317432) **3.25** *RatKan II* (3482161) **3.50** Ovide and the Gang (4819) **4.00** CLYDE (8646) **4.30-5.00pm** Runaway Bay (2836)

NICKELODEON
7.00am Dawn Patrol (75426) **7.30** Guts (50161) **8.00** Get the Picture (65529) **8.30** Wild Side Show (84600) **9.00** Rabbit Ears' We All Have Tales (71180) **9.30** Fraggle Rock (51762) **10.00** Janosch's Dream (28616) **10.30** World of David the Gnome (77364) **11.00** Sharon, Lois and Bram's Elephant Show (74616) **11.30** Eureeka's Castle (56838) **12.30pm** Rabbit Ears' We All Have Tales (19838) **1.00** World of David the Gnome (74797) **1.30** Wisdom of the Gnomes (18109) **2.00** Janosch's Dream (6345) **2.30** Nick Jr Story Time (2635) **3.00** Kablooey (8180) **3.30** Out of Control (7180) **4.00** Fraggle Rock (3987) **4.30** Hey Dude (8971) **5.00** Clarissa Explains It All (4797) **5.30** Get the Picture (6451) **6.00** Guts (3364) **6.30-7.00pm** Welcome Freshmen (4616)

DISCOVERY
4.00pm Birds in Australia (3284600) **4.50** Encyclopedia Galactica (79922513) **5.00** Crocodile Man (8005600) **6.00** Beyond 2000 (5626432) **6.50** Anne Martin's Postcards (6178635) **7.00** The Arctic (8186529) **7.30** The Global Family (6920613) **8.00** The Beerhunter (8195277) **8.30** Bush Tucker Man (8001884) **9.00** Malcolm Forbes (9578180) **10.00** Discovery Litel (7222906) **10.30** For Real (7135426) **11.00-12.00** The Wandering Company (4050161)

BRAVO
12.00 Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman (7218703) **12.30pm** FILM: The Birthday Present (1957, b/w): A man is accused of smuggling (24549529) **2.10** FILM: Main Street to Broadway (1953, b/w). A playwright's dream comes true (2524529) **4.00** The Flying Nun (9170136) **4.30** My Three Sons (2229600) **5.00** The Beverly Hillbillies (8193819) **5.30** The Donny And Marie Show (9275780) **6.00** The Doris Day Show (2425203) **6.30** Car 54, Where Are You? (8720895) **7.00** The Mothers-in-Law (8000155) **7.30** The Smothers Brothers Show (2320659) **8.00** FILM: The Weak and the Wicked (1954, b/w) Women in prison (8970884) **9.30** Art Linkletter And The Kids (2986155) **9.45** FILM: Hoffman (1970): Peter Sellers falls in love (8826616) **11.30-12.00** The Twilight Zone (6838600)

UK LIVING
7.00am Jayne and Friends (1955277) **8.00** Fame, Fortune and Romance (2140513) **8.30** Living Daylights (2149884) **9.00** Divorce Court (2236364) **9.30** Hot Topics (4469451) **10.00** Beautywise (2856242) **10.30** Living Extra (2232548) **11.00** The Advice Shop (8391600) **11.30** Eating Out with John Tovey (8472529) **12.00** Practical Living (41106819) **12.15pm** Kilroy (5614744) **1.00** Crosswits (2327180) **1.30** Infatuation (4479838) **2.00** Days of Our Lives (2857971) **3.00** Agony Hour (8476345) **4.00** Crosswits (5833703) **4.30** Infatuation (5839987) **5.00** Highlights of Jayne and Friends (8400616) **6.00** The Full *Treatment* (5843180) **6.30** *Floyd on Fish* (5834432) **7.00** Agony Hour (2393819) **8.00** The Young and the Restless (2302567) **9.00** *Love and Hate* (Mini-series, 2 of 2) (2209426) **11.00** Divorce Court (8496109) **11.30** You're on the Air with Dr Ruth (2852426) **12.00-1.00am** Days of Our Lives (1839285)

FAMILY CHANNEL
5.00pm Danger Bay (5635) **5.30** The Wonder Years (6890) **6.00** Big Brother Jake (3703) **6.30** Catchphrase (1155) **7.00** Trivial Pursuit (2971) **7.30** All Clued Up (3567) **8.00** Snowy River (58180) **9.00** FILM: Da (1989): Martin Sheen returns for his father's funeral (20819) **10.30** The Bob Newhart Show (29695) **11.00** Newhart (24635) **11.30** The Mary Tyler Moore Show (14426) **12.00-1.00am** Lou Grant (44448)

MTV
6.00am Awake on the Wild Side (461857) **9.00** Marijne Van Der Vlugt (737890) **12.00** Greatest Hits (6215154) **1.30pm** Madonna in Paris (4787451) **3.30** Report (1775180) **3.45** At The Movies (1770635) **4.00** News (1205074) **4.15** 3 From 1 (1122797) **4.30** Dial MTV (8068) **5.00** The Soul of MTV (7093) **5.30** Music Non-Stop (43267) **7.00** In Search of Madonna (4529) **7.30** Most Wanted (68797) **9.00** Greatest Hits (47074) **10.00** Report (835548) **10.15** At The Movies (623703) **10.30** News at Night (424277) **10.45** 3 From 1 (412432) **11.00** Beavis and Butt-head (26093) **11.30** Marijne Van Der Vlugt (47971) **1.00** Chill Out Zone (61223) **2.00** Night Videos (4147556) **1.00-6.00am** MTV on Tour (6276662)

TV ASIA
6.30am Punjabi News (7066548) **6.45** Gujarati News (5843797) **7.00** Bengali News (43426) **7.30** Hindi News (28161) **8.00** Urdu News (18535) **8.30** English News (16567) **9.30** Paley Shah (11628) **10.30** Lifestyle (58432) **11.30** Telly Talk (37109) **12.00** Hindi, Urdu and English News (11722) **12.30pm** Nukkad (39616) **1.00** Pakistani Movie: Mehbooba (589971) **4.00** Kiddie Time (10432) **5.00-6.00am** TVA (5068) **7.00** Showtime (4631) **7.30** Sportsworld (2600) **8.00** English News (413567) **8.15** ID Youth (811797) **9.00** Hindi Movie: Pratikaar (120451) **12.05am** Sat N Live (6108204) **1.00** Hindi Movie: Gon (9757681) **4.00** Mandi (74469) **5.00** Intezaar (77136) **5.30-6.00am** Music (75117)

TNT
7.00pm East Side, West Side (1949). A couple have marriage problems (82665703)
9.05 His Brother's Wife (1936, b/w): A man marries his brother's girlfriend (67310155)
10.45 Clash by Night (1952, b/w): Barbara Stanwyck returns from the city (11059109)
12.45am The Secret Bride (1935, b/w) A man weds a politician's daughter (81480204)
2.00 The Woman in Red (1935, b/w). A horsewoman marries into society (39836391)
3.20 Purchase Price (1932, b/w). A farmer is offered money for his wife (77925001). Ends at **5.00am**

CNN
Twenty-four hour news

CMT
Country music from midnight to 4pm

QVC
Home shopping channel

No sense in building new structure on old foundations



Robson: candidate



David Miller believes the FA must look beyond Graham Taylor or Bobby Robson to restore the national side's fortunes

ENGLAND'S football plight has seldom been worse, a conspicuous failure in administrative principle, management policy and playing practice. The founders of football are in disarray.

Graham Taylor, the manager, and the Football Association international committee who appointed him should, realistically and honourably, resign. Yet Taylor refuses and the committee, with no sense of being even partially responsible, would not even think of it.

Indeed, Taylor's public relations performance deteriorated the day after England disappeared from the World Cup horizon, worse even than his highly questionable tactical selections over the past 3½ years. Comparing himself to his predecessor, Bobby Robson, he claimed a better record, whereas it is demonstrably inferior.

Most alarming of all is the possibility that Taylor may be promoted to general manager in partnership with a coach as manager-trainee. Nothing Taylor has done so far, in selection, man management or public relations, suggests he is in any way qualified to supervise the urgent restructuring of England's international future.

Taylor spuriously claims, considering the variation of fixtures, his match record — won 18, drawn 13, lost 7 — is better than Robson's 18-11-9. Taylor's teams qualified for the European finals and fluffed it, then failed to qualify for the World Cup.

Robson failed in his first European qualifier and fluffed the finals of the second, but he reached, albeit erratically, the quarter-finals and then semi-finals of successive World Cups.

The unmistakable impression is that Taylor is attempting to cling to his already over-promoted authority and that the FA, if hints by its chief executive, Graham Kelly, are accurate, favours a change to two-tier management. The alternative suggestion being mooted for general manager is Robson.

That would be equally as ill-advised. Robson, as decent a man as Taylor, exhibited the same incapacity to handle an often unpleasantly aggressive media. Well-mannered tolerance of the media is not necessarily sound public relations. Successful leaders are, almost by definition, not always popular, as Alf Ramsey demonstrated.

A general manager would need to be far tougher than either of the last two incumbents, irrespective of tactical competence. The FA is said to be looking for stability: in other words, a situation comparable to Germany's, in which succession is tailored over a period of years, as was Robson's to a degree under Ron Greenwood.

That, however, was a system of manager-and-assistant, rather than general manager and team manager: wholly different, and still no guarantee that the successor has the man management and public relations qualities imperative for the job.

English football's structure offers no training in non-football qualities, making appointments by the FA, or by League club directors, something of a lottery. Bob Paisley had them, Dave Sexton did not. Yet both were equally sound on football judgment.

Of the names being projected as team-manager partners to an England general manager — Wilkinson, Keegan, Gerry Francis, Trevor Francis, Wilkins and Hoddle — none as yet has clearly demonstrated man management qualities at the highest level in addition to football qualities. Appointing any one of them would be a huge gamble, not knowing how they would respond to the intolerable exposure of the national post, least of all Hoddle.

If the FA seeks stability, it can hardly make sense to promote Taylor to general manager, when his reign has been notable for instability: losing qualifying ties to Norway and Holland, achieving victory home or away only against Turkey, Poland and San Marino, and controversially substituting his captain in the European championship finals.

There is the further notion that Taylor could become the successor to Charles Hughes as director of coaching when Hughes retires in 1995. To many who care about the way England play their football, such a step would be like making a tractor designer head of a Formula One team.

The one man offering potential stability, in all capacities, is Jack Charlton, pragmatic though he might be; while the man who might revolutionise the approach on the field is Osvaldo Ardiles. If the FA has not the nerve to go for a foreigner, and Charlton no longer fancies the job, then either Gerry or Trevor Francis is probably the answer. But not under the supervision of a discredited Taylor, whatever his defiance in failure.

Taylor in no mood to admit defeat

BY ROB HUGHES, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

RECRIMINATION, but no resignation, came yesterday. In a small London hotel near Lancaster Gate. Graham Taylor's mood was as sombre as the grey of his suit. He sat before the press, the quarry defiant before the hounds.

TheEngland manager — and that Taylor still is — said next to nothing. "It is a very low point, isn't it, in everybody's position, particularly my own," he began."To be England manager is to hold a position of tremendous pride at the top of your profession. But when you lose, you are aware that you carry the hopes, aims, ambitions of so many people, the whole country, and I will take responsibility for that on my shoulders."

Take responsibility how far? The ultimate failure, in most walks of life, demands accountability at the top. In this case there are others above Taylor at the Football Association who should be looking at their responsibility, but Sir Bert Millichip, chairman of the FA, had already said two weeks ago: "The failure of the England club does not affect my position whatsoever."

Interesting. And what of Peter Swales, chairman of Manchester City and chairman of the England international committee, the man who appointed Taylor three years ago. Swales was nowhere to be seen in Bologna, or at Lancaster Gate. His colleagues plead that he had a family commitment. Small wonder that Taylor looked so alone, so exposed yesterday.

Yet sympathy, anger and futility all have to be tempered. To put them into proportion, it has to be remembered that as the England team flew back to Luton, the life of an elderly Wales supporter was taken senselessly by a rocket launched across Cardiff Arms Park after the Welsh defeat by Romania.

By comparison, any sympathy towards a highly-paid football manager has to be muted. Taylor's ambitions have outgrown his experience and in spite of his lack of commitment to any talk of immediate resignation, he will not, and cannot, remain.

Taylor had the idea that the difference in rhythms and technique of international football was "a myth". Some myth. Despite selecting 78 players in a restless, indecisive and interchangeable attempt to hit a winning formula, Taylor himself had to spend the three years learning at England's expense. Because of his earnestness, his doggedness and diligence, learn he most certainly did, though he remains shy of admitting it.

Even to the end, he underestimated the chasm of difference, the adaptation that seldom comes instantly to a professional player. Thus, on Wednesday, against San Marino, perhaps the weakest opposition in World Cup football, Taylor suddenly threw in Stuart Ripley.

The Blackburn winger, a tenacious player at Premier League level, had had no previous international experience. The England team had had but a few days' practice with him. They virtually ignored him. The game is, in the end, about players and their adaptability. But how sad if Ripley, a victim of the circumstance, should have played in one bizarre night his one and only England international.

At half-time in that splendid stadium in Bologna, an FA committee man, one of the nameless and faceless, uttered in private: "In 40 years, I have never been so baffled. What *are* we trying to do?"

"We" were trying to score a minimum of seven goals against an inadequate team. England fell one short, but in any case that was academic because Holland, a team without four of its best players, was helping itself to the victory that it needed in Poland.

Why was this? Because Taylor and his players are products of a league whose club chairmen put club before country, who consistently pay lip-service to, but vote against, reforms to the league that help create time for the national team to forge a style.



Ripley: ignored

That style would have to be radically different from "English" football. For decades, England has been sold a coarse game that confuses energy with talent and mistakes results for progress.

Wednesday, in both Bologna and Cardiff, demonstrated this point. That grotesque parody of football in which the England captain, Stuart Pearce, gave a goal away to amateurs after 8.3 seconds, was contrasted to 20 seconds of bewitching Romanian play against Wales.

The Romanians produce technically gifted players, those capable of dispossessing Ian Rush in their own penalty area and then, through 12 passes and seven pairs of feet, opening up the Welsh for the goal by Hagi. It was hypnotic and revealed what Pearce lacked: total comfort with the ball at the feet.

So, listening to Taylor in the aftermath, hearing him say: "I shall continue doing the job until the situation is changed", begged the real question of whether the England system will ever change.

If not, the only alternative is to be as pragmatic as Jack Charlton, the one manager in five who has taken players from the British Isles to the World Cup. He was not even granted the dignity of a reply when he applied to become England manager: now, he will take to Boston a team that is largely English in birth and style, but goes under the tricolor of Ireland.

Welsh sorrow, page 43
Simon Barnes, page 43
Charlton's search, page 43

"Useless!", "A terrible nightmare" and "Unqualifiable" were just some of the headlines which expressed the failure to reach the World Cup finals. If Graham Taylor and England felt disappointment on Wednesday night, it was nothing to that which was felt in France.

Rob Hughes, page 43

CHRIS HARRIS



Taylor faces the press yesterday following England's elimination from the World Cup on Wednesday. The manager refused to contemplate immediate resignation

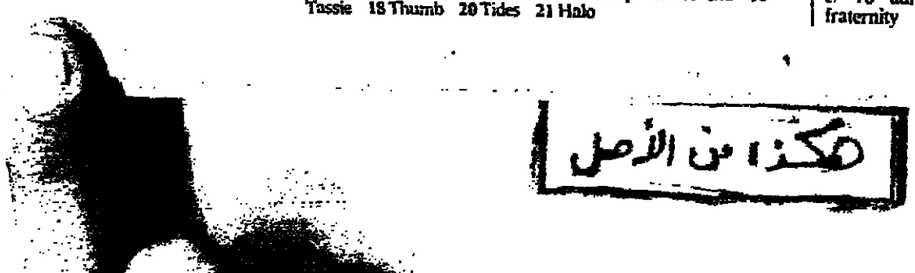


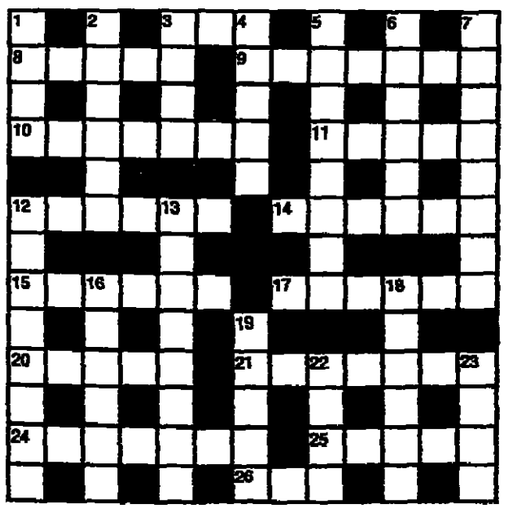
The day I didn't show up for work...

Was the day our business really took off. The IT Director and I went to a MorseData seminar. It featured Hewlett - Packard UNIX based client/server computer systems for medium or large companies. We also met the SAP people, showing their new R/3 modular business software, running on the Oracle database. It turned out to be an important date in our history!

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TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 17

ACROSS
3 Chart (3)
8 New Zealander (5)
9 Eremite (7)
10 Discreet (7)
11 Cancel (5)
12 Take for granted (6)
14 Pitiful (6)
15 Confining to grounds (6)
17 State of well-being (6)
20 Remains of felled tree (5)
21 Finished (7)
24 Greek 'U' (7)
25 Highly inclined (5)
26 Speck (3)

DOWN
1 Complacent (4)
2 Bog (6)
3 Even-tempered (4)
4 Mrs Grundy type (5)
5 Repeatedly scrape with claws (8)
6 Pear-shaped fruit (6)
7 Prepare to change gear (8)
12 First Roman emperor (8)
13 Competition-free sale (8)
16 Self-evident remark (6)
18 Film comedian - the thin one (6)
19 Long period without a wicket (5)
22 Spoil through disuse (4)
23 Undeserved promotion (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 16

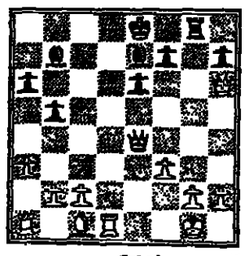
ACROSS: 1 Le Corbusier 8 Haifa 9 Amplify 10 Ripe 11 Nutshell 13 Mark-up 14 Hotspot 17 Betrayal 19 Brut 22 Aqueous 23 Amend 24 But me no buts

DOWN: 1 Lehar 2 Clipper 3 Real 4 Uranus 5 Impostor 6 Rhine 7 Eyelet 12 Runabout 13 Mob-cap 15 Parvenu 16 Tassie 18 Thumb 20 Tides 21 Halo

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is a variation from the game Short - Kasparov, Times World Championship, game 16. If Short had inadvisedly captured Black's g-pawn, this is what might have happened. Black to play and win. Copies of The Times World Chess Championship (Kasparov v Short 1993, Batsford) can be ordered by credit card on 0937 541149, price £7.99.



Solution, page 46

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

FILICIDE
a. Pertaining to ferns
b. Like a thread
c. Killer of one's child

GANSEL
a. A garlic sauce for a goose
b. An extra topsail
c. To admit to a Dutch fraternity

LEAM
a. To shell nuts
b. The larboard beam of a ship
c. The infant lemming

MOONACK
a. A madman
b. An Amerindian night raid
c. The woodchuck

Answers on page 46